

Page 16

Obituaries 11; Weather 4
 Comment 12; Crossword 15
 Sport section 17-28
 Quick Crossword 28
 Radio and Television 4

770261 307316 28



The new Lexmark
high speed colour printer.
So fast, it may change
more than you'd expect.

For more information, simply call
08000 380088 during working hours.
Or visit our web site at
www.lexmark.co.uk/optiracolour anytime.

LEXMARK

Lexmark Printers. So good, you'll want to stay together forever.

'I will be here until we win. I will be here for the rest of my life if it is necessary'

Standoff at Drumcree: John Mullin joins the hemmed-in Orangemen, minus last year's hero

THEY drifted into the graveyard early yesterday. Some were already wearing the Orange sash. All were dressed in their Sunday best. They came to remember William Stephen Wright, who would have been 38 tomorrow.

The polished black granite headstone was finally erected in Seagoe cemetery on Saturday, six months after he was shot dead at the Maze Prison. It spoke of Brigadier Wright, beloved father-of-three, and proclaimed his murderers last December to be the enemies of Ulster.

The lettering was in gold, picking out John, chapter 15, verse 13. His love of his friends had been the greatest of all, and that was to lay down his life for them. There was a final touch, important in Portadown yesterday. The final line of the inscription read: "Gone But Not Forgotten."

It was Billy Wright who orchestrated victory two years ago when the Orangemen went down the nationalist Garvaghy Road after a five-day stand-off. It was violence that paid dividends. After his Loyalist Volunteer Force shot dead Michael McGoldrick, 31, a taxi-driver from nearby Lurgan, Sir Hugh Annesley,



then chief constable, relented for fear of further loss of life.

But there was no Billy Wright yesterday, and the anger seemed resigned. LVF men were there, but they were promising to wait and see what the Orange Order's secret plans might be.

There were other differences. The security operation was more considered. A deep trench and three rows of fear-some barbed wire blocked the way across the fields. A 20 foot container loaded with ballast blocked the road.

There were no police or army to eyeball and threaten. They were so far away that when Harold Gracey, district master, marched his men up to the barrier shortly before

1pm as the Edgarstown Band played, no one was there to relax him.

At least 2,500 troops and police were, however, on the scene, discreetly, with another 26,000 on standby around Northern Ireland, ready to respond to the Orange Order's secret plans.

Ronald McConnell, aged 22, said: "I will be here until we win. I will be here for the rest of my life if it is necessary."

Niall Cinnamon, aged 33, thumped his chest, and it was as eloquent an explanation of Orangism as any on offer. He was there for his culture, his heritage and his country.

What they all meant was that Drumcree is the acid test. What happens here tells them

who is winning in Northern Ireland.

Orangemen, Unionists, Protestants — the words are sometimes taken wrongly as synonyms — won last year. They were quickly pushed through at the appointed hour, to the fury of the residents.

That Catholics, nationalists and republicans — all lumped in together — have achieved a ban this year underlines Orange fears that the Good Friday Agreement is a sell-out, and Northern Ireland is the commodity which is being hived off to Dublin.

The Rev John Pickering tries to steer clear of all that political stuff. He came as rector of this parish of 1,000 souls 14 years ago. He has no regrets, but his nerves seem shattered.

Mr Pickering, aged 57, woke at 5am to put the finishing touches to his sermon yesterday. His predecessors have done likewise since 1807, the first time the Orange Order had its annual service at the Church of Ascension, Drumcree, then the only Protestant place of worship in Portadown.

He surveyed the scene from the rectory with horror, noticing two buildings with red crosses on top. It dawned on him that they were field hospitals.

A marble plaque on the door of the church names 34 young men from the parish killed in the first world war. Most died at the Somme, part of the Orange Order's commemorations on the first Sunday in July since.

Mr Pickering said: "I am told that what the security forces have done, there is rather similar to how the trenches in the Battle of the Somme must have looked in 1916. It just seems such a terrible pity."

Standoff at Drumcree: Stuart Millar goes behind the wire for a nationalist watch and wait game

SUNDAY morning at the top end of the Garvaghy Road, in St John the Baptist Roman Catholic church, 10am Mass is under way, the aides are busy if not packed. Outside local children are playing in the streets, racing around on bikes or kicking a football.

It would be a typical Sunday scene, were it not for the barbed wire around the church, the security forces' roadblock outside, and the fact that on the other side of Portadown, County Armagh, hundreds of Orangemen are preparing to set off for the most contentious parade of the Northern Ireland marching season.

As the province braced itself yesterday for the annual Drumcree showdown, the staunchly nationalist estates around the Garvaghy Road were transformed into a heavily fortified enclave. Behind the concrete and steel roadblocks, the army enforced "sterile zones" to keep the two sides apart. Residents were doing their best to act normal. Under the gaze of hundreds of cameras, it was an unconvincing job.

The mass was over by 10.40am. But instead of wan-



An RUC man guards Drumcree Road. PHOTOGRAPH: ALASTAIR GRANT

dering home, the churchgoers joined residents already gathered outside to wait for the Orangemen to pass the end of the road on their way to Drumcree parish church. At 11am, the first marchers appeared, to a silent reception from the residents; no jeering, no whistling, no abuse. For 15 minutes, the only sound was of the marchers' feet on tarmac, punctuated by the steady beating of their drums. Then the last of the marchers passed and the crowd headed home.

"We will just watch and wait now," said Brendan MacCinnamh, leader of the Garvaghy Residents Coalition. "It is between the Government and the Orangemen."

For four years the half-mile

long Garvaghy Road has formed the most potent flash-point in Northern Ireland. The Orangemen claim they have marched down it for almost 200 years and it is their right to continue doing so. The Catholic residents whose homes now line the street say the parade is a triumphalist reminder of Protestant domination.

Yesterday should have been more hopeful for the residents after the Parades Commission ruled the march should not be allowed down the road. The contrast in moods with last year was overwhelming. After days of negotiations, locals had gone to bed on Saturday night confident the parade would be blocked. But at 2am on Sun-

day, they were alerted from their beds by a siren as hundreds of RUC and army Land-Rovers sealed them into their homes to allow a limited parade to go through — albeit under a hail of missiles. The road remains scarred from the scorch marks from the rioting which followed the parade.

This time was different. By Saturday afternoon the army fortifications had been erected on such a scale as to make it impossible for the Orangemen to go through. The atmosphere along the road was relaxed, the RUC of officers in position wearing their normal peaked caps, rather than the black helmets of 12 months before.

But by late afternoon yesterday as the Orangemen dug in and the stand-off took shape, the air of calm on the nationalist side was replaced by an unease which grew as night approached. At one point, a misunderstood warning to residents from the community radio station to remain vigilant brought people running on to the streets believing the march was to be forced through once again.

"We have seen the Government pretend to stand up to the Orangemen before, but after a few days they give in and the parade goes through," said Patricia Brown, a local resident. "They might not let them through today but what about tonight or tomorrow or the next day? This has to be the year to sort [it] out once and for all because people are afraid to come out of their homes."

Another resident was more sceptical. "It is just a matter of time. To the Government it is a numbers game and if they think betraying us is the lesser of two evils, that's what they will do."



Fans rock at the Party in the Park, in aid of the Prince's Trust, yesterday

PHOTOGRAPH: STEFAN ROUSSEAU

Charles plays Prince of Cool role

Caroline Sullivan on royal appearance at an uncharacteristically hip occasion — a pop concert in Hyde Park, London

PRINCE Charles, who is more at home with mezzo-soprano than drum and bass, emerged as an unlikely King of Cool yesterday when he attracted the cream of the Top Ten to the Prince's Trust gig in Hyde Park.

All Saints, Boyzone, Natalie Imbruglia and Louise — who came direct from her honeymoon following her wedding to footballer Jamie Redknapp — were among the music royalty who performed before an audience of 100,000.

It was a marked contrast to last month's tribute show to the Princess of Wales at Althorp. Diana was a well-known pop fan but the concert in her name was notably short of hip names, making do with Chris de Burgh and Sir Cliff Richard.

But yesterday's event, billed as the Party in the Park, was a Who's Who of the popper end of the scene, with wrinkles such as Tom Jones and Lionel Richie thrown in for the benefit of parents chaperoning predominantly young fans. But the grown-ups had to endure all 20 acts sober because of a ban on alcohol.

At least the rein that blighted other recent outdoor bashes stayed away. The sun shone from the first act — Gary Barlow replacing an ailing Simple Minds — till the cast of the musical Saturday Night Fever closed the show eight hours later.

Three-million-selling chart queens All Saints were reportedly meant to go on at 2pm, but delayed their set to accommodate the prince, who

arrived from a polo match at five o'clock. Contrary to expectations, William and Harry, fans of the streetwise Saints, did not accompany their father.

After meeting Stephen Fry, Linford Christie and X-Files actor David Duchovny backstage, the Prince watched B*Witched, All Saints and Louise. The latter two were the sauciest stars of the day but if the royal toe tapped to Louise's Naked or All Saints' explicitly sexual Booty Call, its owner's face betrayed nothing.

He did, however, wave his programme in a manner immediately familiar to anyone who's ever been to a rock festival. His campaign for a more informal image received another boost when he flapped his arms to B*Witched's numbar one single C'est la Vie.

Seated next to Duchovny and Richie, he peered at the stage with an expression best described as bemused. All Saints got the prince's full at-

tention, and the crowd's too. He watched as pregnant Melanie Blatt, in a cropped top that exposed her bump, jiggled two hits.

Their smooth pop-soul got the best response of the day, with Boyzone a close second. The rest slickly did their thing, the only display of ego being Gary Barlow's comment: "It feels strange to be the opening act."

All but Boyzone and All Saints were confined to four stages, and were then on and off before anyone had a chance to get bored or indeed request more.

Despite complaints of overcrowding and poor sound, fans, who paid up to £225 per ticket, felt they'd got value for money. Jessica Taylor, aged 16, from Buckhurst Hill, Essex, said: "I've just come for the experience. This is only my second concert. I wanted to see Natalie Imbruglia and Boyzone."

Her friend added: "Especially Boyzone. If Roman looks at me I'll faint."

Downing Street adviser under fire over links with lobbyists

continued from page 1

that committee, Martin O'Neill, ordered an inquiry and said he was very disturbed about the leak.

The boasts point to an intricate network of connections, from the serious to the farcical. Mr Draper revealed he faxed a copy of his Express column to Mr Mandelson for vetting, which Mr Mandelson's office confirmed yesterday but added that the minister seldom had time to look at it.

One of the most potentially damning incidents was the introduction by Mr Draper of Mr Liddle to the US consultant acting on behalf of the Observer. Mr Liddle is quoted as saying: "Whenever you are ready, just tell me what you want, who you want to meet and Derek and I will make the call for you."

In a statement issued from Downing Street yesterday, Mr Liddle admitted being introduced by Mr Draper to the US

businessman and his companion. "After a discussion on the subject of the policy, I offered them my card and said I would be happy to talk to them further about it."

"As part of my job, I see a lot of business people on a regular basis. It's an important element of my responsibilities. At no time, did I offer to make any introductions on behalf of GPC or Mr Draper."

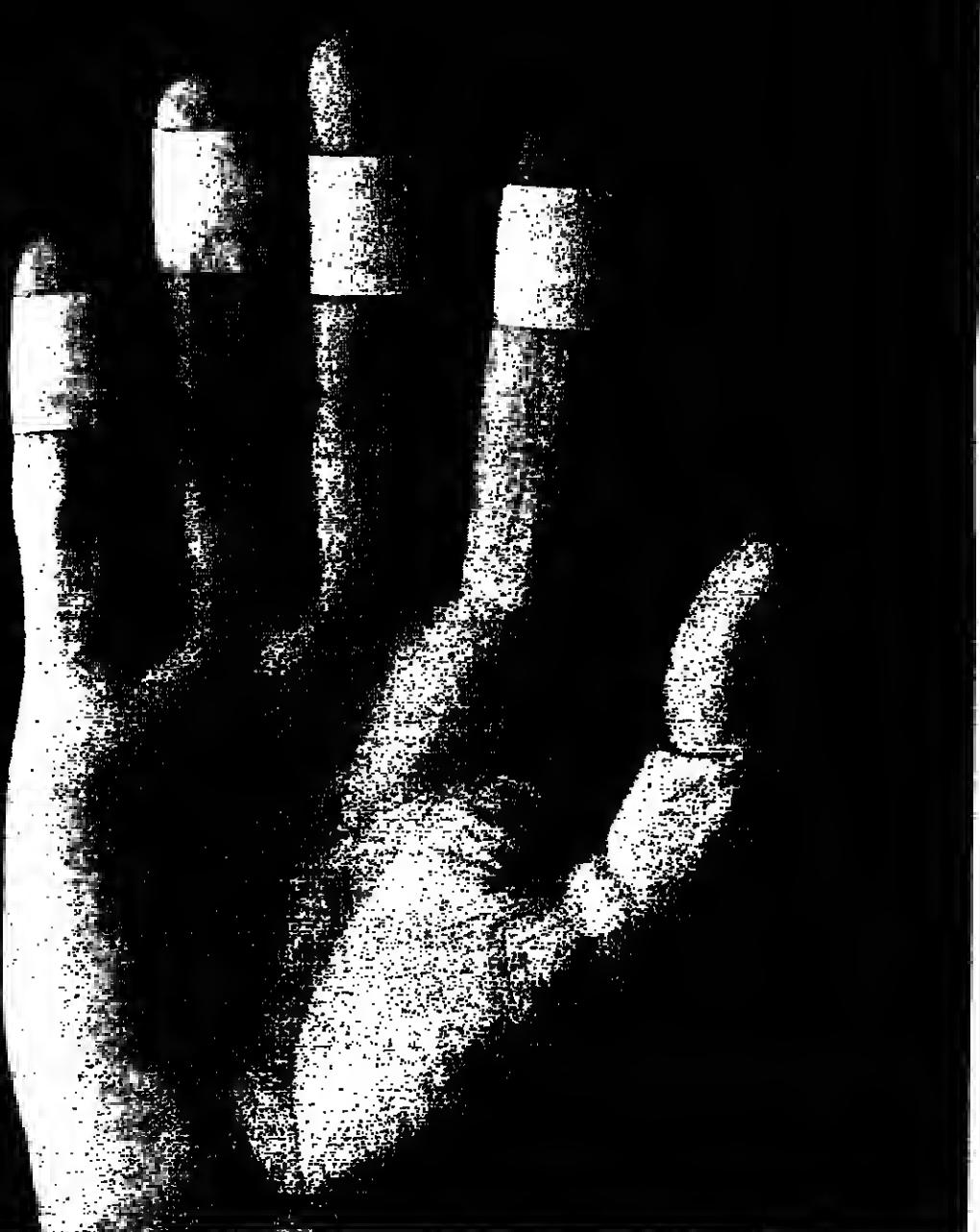
Mr Draper did not return calls yesterday.

But one of the other lobbying firms, LLM, insisted there had been no wrongdoing.

Mr Lucas said: "There has been no impropriety committed by LLM and even malicious misrepresentation has failed to establish any suggestion otherwise."

"We have at all times made clear that our political communications advice is based on understanding and analysis and not on access," he added.

Massive cuts IN THE
COST OF long distance
PHONE CALLS.



مكتبة الامير

Johnny Speight, the writer behind Alf Garnett, Britain's favourite bigot, was defiantly politically incorrect to the last

John Ezard on a 'strong character'



Warren Mitchell (right) plays Alf Garnett in a 1966 episode of *Till Death Us Do Part*, featuring (from left) Tony Booth, Una Stubbs and Dandy Nichols

Till Death Us Do Part creator dies

JOHNNY Speight, who made a lifetime of mischief, money and controversy out of his incorrigible comic bigot Alf Garnett, died yesterday at the age of 78.

After years of being treated as politically incorrect, he had managed to get one last, cheeky script shown on BBC1, the channel of his old glories. Called *Till Death Us Do Part*, it was screened shortly before last year's general election.

It rediscovered the long-lost son of Alf's daughter and son-in-law — played in *Till Death Us Do Part* by Una Stubbs and Tony Booth — as a newly

elected young Labour prime minister. In real life, Mr Booth is Charlie Blair's father.

When a dignitary at a Chequers banquet asked Garnett what had happened to his Tory principles, he replied: "I didn't think socialism would be as good as this."

Speight died of stomach cancer with his family around him at home in Chorleywood, Hertfordshire. His son Francis, aged 38, a golf professional, said: "He died peacefully. He had been quite unwell for some time but he only found out about the cancer two months ago. He knew he didn't have a lot of time."

"But the illness only stopped him writing in the last three or four weeks. He was a strong character."

Till Death and other writing was earning Speight £10,000 a year, with a Rolls-Royce, by the mid-1960s. His 40 prominent years as a television scriptwriter ended in the early 1980s when the BBC cancelled a new series of *In Sickness and In Health*, his sequel to *Till Death*.

This was allegedly because of complaints about swear words and references to lesbians in the sequel from a character who was both reviled and cherished in the first

series for calling blacks "coons" and his wife a "silly old moo".

Dandy Nichols, the actress playing Mrs Garnett, grew so depressed and angry at this on-screen invective that she was unwilling to work with Speight for 10 years after *Till Death* ended.

After the sequel was terminated, Speight said: "Alf had become a symbol of all they hated. It was becoming increasingly difficult to get him on TV. To some extent the motive behind political correctness was good. It was 'anti' any kind of prejudice."

"But it was legislating

against people's thoughts and all debate was being stifled. Someone must have bowed to political pressure."

Alf Garnett, he said, was always going to offend someone. "He is the worst of the English male — taken to extremes for comic reasons."

"I didn't invent him. He was created by society. I just grassed on him. Unfortunately the world is full of Alf Garnetts. Not only in the working classes, in the upper classes and middle classes — all sorts of places. You can't encourage racism to be any worse than they are. And the fact that you raise these

points of view and make fun of them makes people more inclined to think about them. If you never mention them, they just go on."

Last night Paul Jackson, controller of entertainment for the BBC, said: "There are very few writers who can claim to have created a character who embodied a spirit of a generation."

"Johnny Speight did this with Alf Garnett."

Geoffrey Perkins, BBC head of comedy, said Speight was "one of the foremost comedy writers Britain has produced".

Obituary, page 11

Anglican prayer book to include exorcism

Madeline Bunting
Religious Affairs Editor

PRAYERS of healing, exorcism and deliverance are to be included for the first time in the Church of England's new service book.

The new service incorporates traditional prayers calling for God's protection from "the wrath of evildoers, from the assaults of evil spirits, from foes visible and invisible, from the snares of the devil".

It will also include a service for exorcism, although it is emphasised that such services require the authorisation of the local bishop. There are also prayers to rid a place of evil spirits: "Visit, Lord, we pray, this place and drive far from it all the snares of the enemy."

The services include anointing the sick with blessed oil and the laying of hands on people who are ill or in need of emotional healing.

Several priests told the General Synod meeting yesterday in York during a debate on the wording of the new services that there had been an enormous growth in demand for healing in the last 20 years.

chair of the church's council of health and healing, emphasised that the tradition of Christian healing went right back to the New Testament.

"There has been a widespread recovery of awareness that this is part of the Christian faith."

The demand is evidence of the growing strength of the charismatic wing of the church — which believes in the gifts of the Holy Spirit such as speaking in tongues and the power to heal the sick — and it is also indicative of growing concern that in this area of church life, which can provoke intense emotion and high expectations, leaving people to devise their own services can be dangerous.

The Nine O'Clock Service in Sheffield, which collapsed in allegations of sexual misconduct three years ago, placed great emphasis on healing.

The Archbishop of Canterbury yesterday urged the nation to put the death of Di-

'Healing ministry is one of the signs of strength and growth in church'

ana, Princess of Wales behind it. The Rt Rev George Carey's comments followed the Archbishop of York's warning at the weekend that the country was in danger of "clinging too much to the past".

Dr Carey told the Synod: "Let's remember what she's done and remember in our prayers her sons who are left — but also let's move on by remembering what she did for people, and let's think about how we can work in our communities to change lives as she did."

The Archbishop of York, the Rt Rev David Hope, the second most senior cleric in the Church of England hierarchy, had warned earlier that the adulation surrounding Princess Diana was tantamount to a cult.

"We should be careful that she is not worshipped. That worship should be directed to the God who created her. He wants golden hearts and golden minds rather than golden temples."

Wit and wisdom of Alf Garnett

'Where's your working-class God, then? Eh? You've got your upper-class God — oh yes. Just look at his name — Lord God. Not Fred God or Harry God.'

— Alf Garnett

'When I was poor, I couldn't stand the Alf Garnetts in the East End — the ones who took their hats off to the Queen and voted Tory. I'd probably have thrown a bomb at Buckingham Palace given half the chance. Now I just think the Queen's got a bloody awful job. But I still vote Labour.'

— Johnny Speight

'Every single organ in Louis Washkansky's (the first heart transplant patient) was white Jewish. They won't mix with a black heart, will they? And even if they did, what sort of a life is he going to have, living in South Africa with apartheid? I mean, he won't know what toilet to use for a start, will he?'

— Garnett

'Ninety per cent of my material comes from people in pubs. I'm a recorder.'

— Speight

'What the Micks need is a bloody good thumping like we give 'em in the olden days — it wasn't proper wars, more like blood sports.'

— Garnett

'The only difference *Till Death Us Do Part* has made is that I turned in my blue second-hand Rolls for a blue second-hand Bentley Continental.'

— Speight

'There was something about the way the studio audience laughed at certain lines. It's likely that a large proportion of the 20 million people who watched the show did so for the wrong reasons. If they asked me to do another series, I'd run out screaming and shoot myself.'

— Dennis Main Wilson, founder producer, *Till Death Us Do Part*



Johnny Speight in 1992 with his Rolls-Royce

Square Mile set to shut out cars

Keith Harper
Transport Editor

CARS could be banned from the Square Mile, home of the Bank of England and most of Britain's financial institutions, by the end of the year under a radical plan to tackle London's traffic chaos.

The scheme, which would draw on smart-card technology, represents the first attempt to ban cars from a large city area for reasons other than security. It will be submitted to the Government by the Corporation of London

and could form the blueprint for action in other cities. John Prescott, the Deputy Prime Minister, has still to see details but his officials last night were said to be impressed by the idea. It reflects the Government's view that action must be taken by local authorities to curb car use in congested areas, a view that will be laid out this month in Mr Prescott's integrated transport policy white paper.

One problem facing the Corporation is the existence of a law that allows vehicles free access to the highway. But officials at the Department of Transport said yesterday there would be nothing to stop the London scheme being tested for 18 months.

The Square Mile project builds on the partial banning of traffic to the area after the IRA bombing there in 1993. A strict surveillance programme was introduced with police checks at key access points.

Joe Weiss, the Corporation's director of transport, said: "Unless traffic is actively prevented from inhibiting access and local movement, the vitality and efficiency of the City as a place to do business is at risk."

The Corporation's surveys have shown that about 70 per cent of traffic in the Square Mile neither starts nor finishes its journeys in the area.

Under the Corporation's plan, a form of area licensing would be introduced for essential vehicles, such as cabs and buses. Vehicles that need to be in the City would be identified.

A copy of the Corporation's plan says: "Area licensing could be introduced using smart-card technology installed at the zone access points or some other acceptable method such as wind-screen permits."



'The Government is like Thatcherism with extra surveillance cameras. It is unclear whether Labour is following a broadly neo-liberal agenda because it feels impotent to challenge those who really believe in it'

Larry Elliott.

Finance, page 15

- You can save up to 50% on international calls and up to 26% on national calls.
- There's no need to touch your existing phone.
- Unlike BT, you don't have to pay for your discounts, and savings are for all calls, not just specified numbers.



FIRST TELECOM
0800 458 7507

COMMERCIALS ARE AGAINST BT STANDARD RATES

Downing St denies aide offered to make introductions, but acknowledges 'unwelcome' impression given, Ewen MacAskill reports

How 'insider' lobbyists rose to bait

MPS, government advisers and others from the world of Westminster were spoilt for choice on a sunny night two weeks ago. There were at least three receptions in the square mile round Parliament.

Roger Liddle, who works in the Downing Street policy unit with a remit to look at European policy, went to one at the Banqueting House. So did Derek Draper, a lobbyist and a former researcher for the Minister without Portfolio, Peter Mandelson. And so too did Gregory Palast, an American consultant/journalist working on behalf of the Observer. The three met and chatted. Their conversation has re-opened the controversy about the relationship between government and lobbyists.

Under the Tories, money

was exchanged between MPs and lobbyists. Is Labour, elected to clean up politics, any better? Are the bright, young people who left Labour to join lobbying companies as sleazy as their predecessors, or are they just naive?

Under the last government, the Sunday Times's ailing tested whether Conservative MPs would put down parliamentary questions for cash, and came up with the answer 'Yes'. The Observer, acting on information from two sources that lobbyists were offering insider information, asked Mr Palast to test the present government.

The resulting tale provides a wonderful collection of quotes from lobbyists boasting of the access they can offer. Seeing them in print will make the lobbyists squirm, and it was hardly surprising that most went to ground yesterday, with one

even reported to have gone to Italy. But is there more to it than just embarrassment? The Conservatives hope so, desperate to take revenge for the years when they were subjected to headline after headline about sleaze, and will press the Government all this week for explanations.

'They are still close with people in Downing Street and the Treasury'

If it was to be proved that the lobbyists did supply market-sensitive information, acquired through their old friends in government, then there is a case for Number 10 and the Treasury to answer. Mr Palast posed as someone

representing big US energy concerns. He contacted various lobbying firms, and the responses ranged from arrogant boasts of access to key figures in government, through to delivery of an advance of an important speech by the Chancellor, Gordon Brown.

Among allegations made by The Observer were: that Mr Draper boasted he had leaked crucial financial information from the Treasury to the US investment bank Salomon Smith Barney; that Karl Milner, a former adviser to Mr Brown now working for GFW Government Relations, provided a US company with an advance copy of a Commons select committee report; and that Ben Lucas, founder of the LLM lobbying company, claimed he knew the contents of the Chancellor's key Mansion House speech days before it was delivered.

The Government swatted these allegations aside yesterday, saying there was a big difference between what lobbyists boasted they could do — or had done — and what actually happened. There were no links with ministers. Lord Neill, the standards watchdog, may be limited in investigating, because lobbyists are outside his remit. But Mr Liddle is employed by Downing Street, and that is why the Banqueting House conversation takes on special significance.

Mr Palast, who was accompanied by a colleague, asked Mr Draper to establish his credentials by introducing them to someone of influence. Mr Draper, a good self-publicist with a wide network of contacts, brought into the company Mr Liddle.

The latter, who was co-author with Mr Mandelson of The Blair Revolution, chatted

to Mr Palast and left with an alleged remark that is potentially damning: "Whenever you are ready, just tell me what you want, who you want to meet, and Derek and I will make the call for you." If true, Mr Liddle's continuation at Downing Street would be untenable.

'They've come a long way quickly. But they overstate their access'

Downing Street disputed this account yesterday, insisting that Mr Liddle discussed energy matters and then offered Mr Palast his card. At no time did he offer to make introductions, Downing Street said.

A Downing Street insider said Mr Draper had "an inflated view of his own importance". Various government spokesmen stressed that, unlike under the Conservatives, there was no question of money having been passed to ministers or MPs.

More than a score of people left Labour immediately before and since the general election to join various lobbying or consultant groups. It may seem perverse to have left when Labour had finally made it, but there were not enough jobs to go round in government, and Labour headquarters was scaled down. And for some, after years of relatively low salaries, the temptation of big money was irresistible.

The most important people to have gone were Dave Hill, who headed Labour's media operation, and Tim Allan, deputy chief press officer at

Downing Street. Lower down are the Drapers.

A source inside one of the lobbying firms in the row was adamant there was a different culture from under the Conservatives. He said he was not offering access to Mr Brown but he could, from his own knowledge of how the Chancellor thought, tell a client how best to frame his approach. The source knew what would interest Mr Brown, that was all.

A Whitehall source characterised the lobbyists as silly rather than sinister. "They are still close in a friendly way with people in Downing Street and the Treasury. They still see them socially."

"They have come a long way quickly and make a lot of money. But they have overstated their access."

"There is no sleaze, but the impression that they have left is unwelcome."



Backroom boys: Left, Roger Liddle, Downing St adviser on Europe; centre, Derek Draper, former aide of Peter Mandelson; right, Ben Lucas, News International lobbyist



People who know people in the know in government

Roger Liddle. He is in charge of European affairs for Tony Blair's Downing Street Policy Unit and is a close ally of Peter Mandelson.

After the 1997 election Mr Liddle resigned as managing director of Prima Europe, a self-styled public policy consultancy, but retained a 25 per cent shareholding in a blind trust, in line with Cabinet Office rules.

He sold his stake six months ago when Prima merged with lobbyists GPC, which appointed Derek Draper a director. Until then

Mr Liddle had resisted Tory calls to sell his shares, claiming there was no conflict of interest even though Prima traded on its close understanding of the Government.

In a letter to the Guardian Mr Liddle said he would never dream of lobbying Downing Street about the effect of the windfall tax on British Gas, a Prima client.

Mr Liddle travelled a roundabout route to New Labour echelons. Having been a special adviser in the Callaghan government, he defected from Labour in 1981 to help found the Social Demo-

cratic Party. He lectured in industrial relations while sitting on Lambeth council and stood unsuccessfully for Parliament. He supported the Liberal-SDP merger, the Alliance, and then the Liberal Democrats, and wrote that party's 1995 European manifesto before defecting back to Labour.

One year later Mr Mandelson angered leftwing MPs by choosing Mr Liddle as his co-author for a book: The Blair Revolution — Can New Labour Deliver? Mr Liddle took a tough line on parliamentary sleaze in a

1994 Guardian article: "Liberal Democrat participation in a Labour-led government can serve as a cast-iron guarantee — an insurance policy of last resort that it is in Blair's interests to offer the public — that his government will be free of the special interests in the decisions which his ministers take behind closed doors."

Derek Draper. He has had a meteoric ascent from being Mr Mandelson's research assistant to friend and chief adviser.

After the 1997 election he left to become a director of lobbyists, GPC, but retained his close Labour links. Clients include PowerGen, Salomon Smith Barney, and British Gas.

Mr Draper wrote a waspish but astute account of Blair's 100 Days. He now writes a weekly newspaper column headlined inside the Mind of New Labour.

His credibility has been denied recently by a Spectator article in which he claimed Rupert Murdoch had secretly embraced the single currency — just before the

Sun attacked Mr Blair. Mr Draper founded the archetype New Labour magazine, Progress, he is a part owner of Modern Review, and he is associated with Europe 2010, a self-styled cross-party network of the next generation of opinion formers.

Recently he was given the accolade (along with presenter Chris Evans) of being Successful Sexy by a women's magazine.

Ben Lucas. He is a former adviser of Jack Straw when he was shadow home

secretary, a former head of research at the builders' union Ucat, and ran Mr Blair's political briefing unit during the election.

In 1996 he took up a post as senior consultant at Lowe Bell Political while continuing as chairman of the Labour Co-ordinating Committee, a soft left party pressure group.

Mr Lucas lobbied the Government, apparently unsuccessfully, over the anti-bunting bill on behalf of the Royal Society for Prevention of Cruelty to Animals. He left Lowe Bell last year

to form a rival lobbying firm, Lawson, Lucas, Mandelson, whose clients include News International.

Karl Milner. He is a lobbyist employed by GFW Government Relations, whose clients include Bupa, Premier Oil and Goldman Sachs.

Mr Milner advised Gordon Brown on internal party communications before the election. He also worked for Hillary Clinton in the 1994 US Presidential elections.

Profiles by Rory Carroll

News in brief

Booth calls for equality

CHERIE Booth QC today calls on her male colleagues to help bring equality to the legal profession in Europe.

Ms Booth, wife of the Prime Minister, believes too little is done to combat sex discrimination within the profession. Writing in The Lawyer magazine, she says that the role of women is "close to my heart". She went on: "This is not just because I am a female lawyer, but because I believe it raises fundamental questions about justice and human rights."

She claims that across Europe almost half of legal recruits are female, but the hierarchy is male-dominated and does not take sex discrimination seriously.

She added that this culture needed to be changed and said

"it is essential we involve men in this process".

The editor of The Lawyer, Mary Heaney, said: "There are many women lawyers who suffer discrimination but are reluctant to report it for fear of harming their careers."

Guinea pigs on the menu

A CHARITY which has been given a £285,000 National Lottery grant will use part of the cash to breed giant guinea pigs as food for Peruvian Indians, it was revealed yesterday.

The Cusichaca Trust is working to end poverty among the mountain people of Peru by re-introducing traditional farming methods and improving water supplies.

The Midlands-based charity will spend around £2,000 on a project to increase the farm-

ing and breeding of guinea pigs, which are a staple diet of the Peruvian Indians.

The charity is headed by Ann Kendall, aged 59, an archaeologist from Belbroughton, Worcestershire.

Dr Kendall said more than 5,000 people had benefited from the project, which had improved health care and water supplies by reviving indigenous practices. "It may seem strange to people in Britain, but in Peru guinea pigs are kept and killed for their meat," she said between chicken and rabbit.

Man charged with murder

A MAN aged 18 has been charged with the murder of 11-year-old Wesley Nealey who disappeared from his home

more than a month ago, police said yesterday.

Dominic McKilligan, from Newcastle upon Tyne, was charged with the murder at the weekend. A boy's body was found yesterday by Northumbria police.

Wealthy women

THE Spice Girls and chart rivals All Saints have been beaten financially by a singer who never performs in public, a survey showed yesterday.

Neither band made the top 10 in a list of Britain's highest paid women — but Irish star Enya's £9.2 million earnings in the last 12 months won her the number seven slot in the Mail On Sunday list.

The Spice Girls were at number 11, earning £5.1 million each, with All Saints

singer and songwriter Shaznay Lewis 27th on £2.1 million and the rest of the band lagging at 45th with £1.1 million each.

The list is headed by Mary Dobson, aged 55, co-founder of a signmaking company. Her pay packet was £29.3 million.

Most others in the top 10 were also businesswomen. Other high earners included author Barbara Taylor Bradford at 12 with £4.7 million, actress Jane Seymour, 17th with £3.2 million,

and the Duchess of York, described as an author/journalist, at 35 with £1.65 million.

Two share £13m jackpot

TWO TICKETS share Saturday's £13 million jackpot, having winning numbers 9, 15, 25, 29, 32 and 48; bonus was 14.

9.00 AM

WEDNESDAY

8TH JULY

THE SALE.

SALE OPENING HOURS:
WEDNESDAY 8TH, 9AM TO 8PM. THURSDAY 9TH AND FRIDAY 10TH, 9AM TO 7PM. SATURDAY 11TH, 9AM TO 8PM.
SUNDAY 12TH, 11AM TO 5PM. MONDAY 13TH AND TUESDAY 14TH, 10AM TO 6PM. WEDNESDAY 15TH TO FRIDAY 17TH, 10AM TO 7PM. LAST DAY SATURDAY 18TH JULY, 9AM TO 7PM.

VISIT THE HARRODS SALE DURING THE FIRST FOUR DAYS AND YOU COULD WIN A LIMITED EDITION, 2.0 LITRE TOYOTA RAV 4 FREESPORT.

Offer open to customers aged 18 or over. Qualifying purchase required. The closing date for competition entries is 5:00 PM Saturday, 11th July 1998.

THERE IS ONLY ONE HARRODS.
THERE IS ONLY ONE SALE.

Harrods

Harrods Ltd., Knightsbridge, London SW1X 7XL. Telephone 0171-730 1234.

HUHI TRY AN AQUABIKE, FULL THROTTLE

WHY NOT HAVE A GO FOR FREE ON

18TH-19TH JULY NATIONAL GO BOATING WEEKEND

CALL NOW FOR DETAILS OF YOUR NEAREST CENTRE

0345 66 88 44

NATIONAL GO 98 WEEKEND

SAILING, WINDSURFING, POWERBOATING, WATER-SKING & LOTS MORE!

THE GO BOATING MAN HAS A CHARGE FOR YOU!

first direct

why pay bank charges when First Direct is free?

for 24 hour banking call free

0800 24 24 24

First Direct is a division of Midland Bank plc. First Direct reserves the right to decline to open an account for you. To maintain a quality service, calls may be monitored and recorded. Applicants must be 18 or over. Free banking means that there are no charges for cheques and cash machine withdrawals in the UK, standing orders and direct debits. Switch payments or monthly statements. Member HSBC Group

Mellor goes on attack over call for his sacking

John Duncan

DAVID Mellor hit back yesterday at claims that he should be sacked as chairman of the football Task Force after players' union boss Gordon Taylor complained in writing to the Prime Minister about his stewardship of the body.

"I am aware of the Gordon Taylor letter," Mr Mellor said yesterday. "I think it's silly that if someone doesn't agree with you they should run off and call for you to be sacked."

The row relates to an article written by Mr Mellor, in a Sunday newspaper, in which he said players were not taking seriously enough their responsibilities to their communities, despite all the players being contractually obliged to do three hours of community service a week.

"Not much of an imposition surely," wrote Mr Mellor. "But we are told this provision is being honoured mainly in the breach. Most players don't want to do it and most clubs are too frightened of them to enforce it."

The article infuriated Mr Taylor who claims that, over the past five years, there have been 22,252 visits and appearances at community and charitable events by Premiership

players alone. Mr Taylor also points out that the scheme was proposed by the Professional Footballers Association as a response to the Heysel tragedy of 1985.

A spokesman for the Task Force said yesterday that Mr Mellor had never argued that all players were failing in their duty, merely that there was room for improvement and that he was keen to work with Mr Taylor on this and other issues.

However, Mr Taylor believes Mr Mellor is not an appropriate choice to head an important public body. "Can you imagine a judge, say, appointed to chair an inquiry into the public utilities and hurrying into print with his prejudices long before the facts were known or the issues debated? Of course not. But Mellor appears to think that kind of conduct is good enough for football."

The attack on Mr Mellor comes at a sensitive time for the Task Force as it begins to look at commercialism, the most controversial of the topics it was asked to examine when it was created in 1997 by the Sports Minister Tony Banks. Many of those within football — exactly those who are said to be grumbling about Mr Mellor's high profile — fear that the Task Force could act as a focus for supporters' discontent at high prices and the exploitative merchandising of recent years.

Mr Mellor's sympathies are seen as being closer to supporters than many on the Task Force would wish. They would like to see a less populist, more sympathetic figure in the chair when issues such as player salaries and admission prices are discussed.

A Downing Street spokesman indicated, however, that Mr Mellor's job was safe. The former Tory minister also dismissed talk that he was about to face the sack. "This is an obsession of one journalist who does not like either me or Tony Banks," said Mr Mellor yesterday. "Every other week he is attacking one or other of us."



David Mellor: 'not suitable as head of public body'



Dancers of the Channa-Upull ensemble, from Sri Lanka, performing at the Bradford 'Mela' this weekend. The two-day celebration of food, music and dance is the biggest Asian arts event outside the sub-continent. Channa-Upull are appearing at the South Bank Centre in London on July 17

Exports in bloom as gardeners make it big in Japan

John Ezard

IN A triumphant reversal of the old adage about taking coals to Newcastle, British gardeners have begun making money by selling japonica to Japan.

British varieties of the plants — first brought from Japan by botanists early last century — are part of an export boom in cottage garden flowers and shrubs to Tokyo and Osaka.

The explosion in demand is producing record numbers of Japanese buyers at the Royal Horticultural Society's flower show at

Hampton Court, London, today and tomorrow.

Japan has sent 570 trade delegates, by far its biggest turn-out at an English show. In May a British trade mission to two Japanese cities drew 1,000 buyers.

The Department of Trade and Industry said yesterday that it expected exports of Western-style garden products to Japan, now worth £1.16 billion, almost to double by 2000.

Behind the boom — fed by decades of Japanese tourism and so far undented by the yen's decline — is an apparent switch in interest,

especially among younger Japanese, from miniaturist flower and leaf displays to English pot plants, hanging baskets and outdoor private garden plots.

"Traditionally their use of plants has been completely different from ours," said Andrew Norton, a grower at East Lambrook Manor, a Grade I listed Somerset garden. "Now, although many of them live in flats, they have started terracing their balconies with plants, rather like Italian hillside."

"They go particularly for plants which soften hard outlines and can survive

temperature extremes. Some of them are now venturing out of cities and buying or renting small plots of country land. It is only recently that they have started to garden like the English."

Among their favourites are roses, white lavenders, sage, columbines, japonica and astrantia. Mr Norton said they were unfamiliar with the use of japonica as an outdoor garden plant. The old English name for astrantia — Heather's cushion — was now on Japanese lips, he added.

The Department of Trade and Industry's Action

Japan campaign, which organised the Hampton Court show delegation, said it was estimated that up to 38 million of Japan's 125 million population were interested in gardening — although even the word had come into widespread Japanese use only recently.

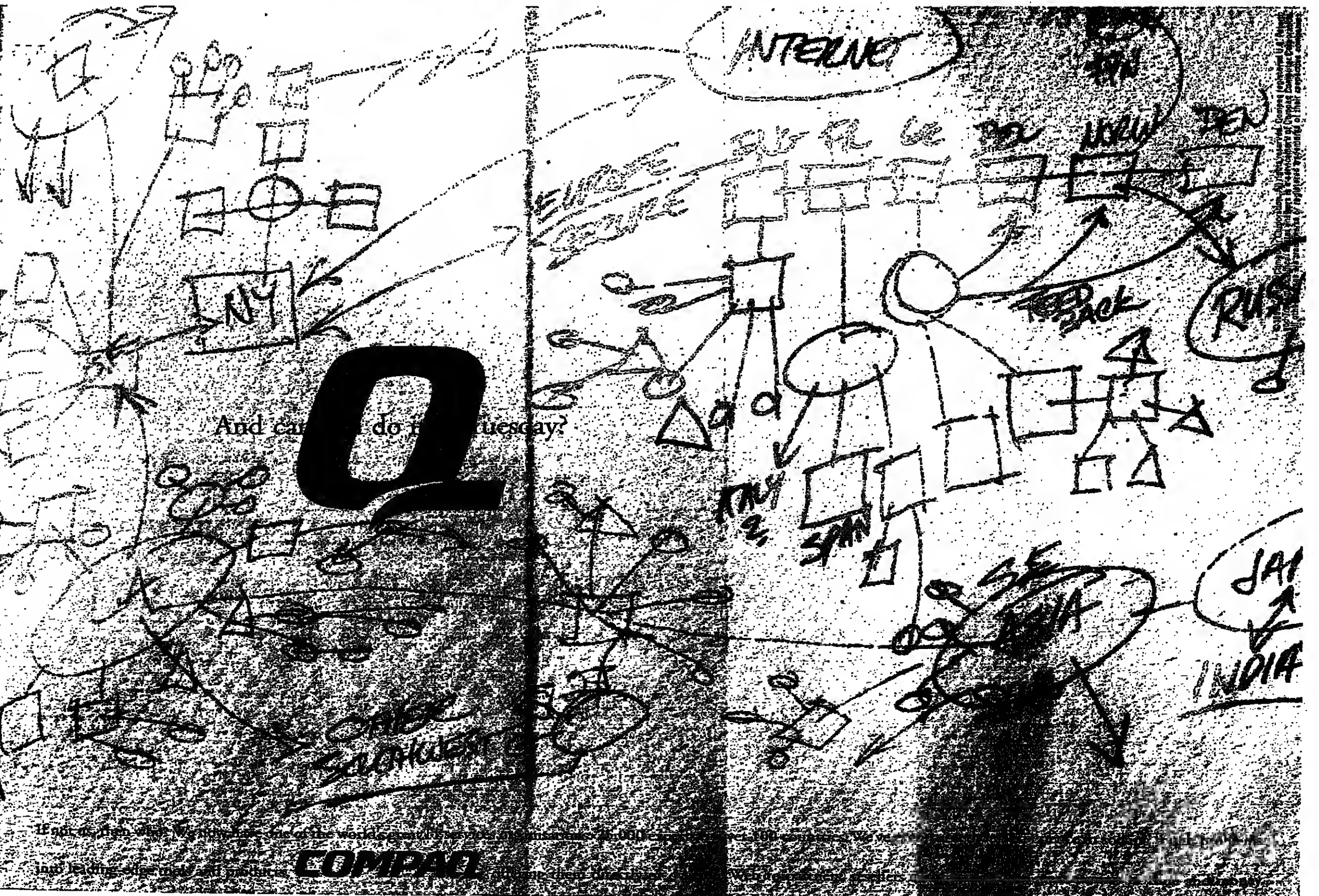
The number of public plots rented for gardening has doubled within five years. English plants are now seen alongside motorways, in parks, outside supermarkets and on many of the 200 new golf courses now being built.

British growers ship dormant plants with roots

washed clean of soil. For them, the long-term target is the £10 billion total which Japan spends on garden products, mostly from China and other Asian countries.

Mr Norton said, "It's a cautionary thought that in the past they've begun by learning things like electronics from the West — and ended up better than us."

"But I don't think that will happen in this case. They have excellent micro-propagation laboratories, they are very good at technology, but they are not so good at art and design."



Better answers.

www.compaq.com/betteranswers

مكتبة الصلح



The apeman discovers a warlike use for a bone, in Stanley Kubrick's film 2001: A Space Odyssey, which echoed the view that mankind's origins were violent

It was an incongruous setting for a dual congress of palaeontologists and biologists, but a gambling resort built under apartheid delivered a strong message on the commonality of mankind, reports David Beresford in Sun City

Theory that war is in the genes is flight of fancy

Robin McKie

SOUTH AFRICA is an apposite place for discussing human origins, for it has generated some of science's most sensational theorising about human nature, disputes that still reverberate around anthropology.

The focus of this furor was a discovery of hominid (human-like) remains at Taung, near Kimberley in 1924. The three-million-year-old fossil — a child's skull with jaws and teeth — was sent to Raymond Dart of Witwatersrand University, Johannesburg. He named it *Australopithecus africanus*.

This species was intelligent, made tools, and was a predecessor of all modern humans, he claimed, an idea that was ignored by the British scientific establishment, who wrongly believed that the key phases of human evolution unfolded in Europe and Asia. We now know Africa is the true home of humanity.

But some of Dart's other assertions went far beyond his meagre evidence. He concluded that the species was made up of "carnivorous creatures that seized living quarry by violence, hattered them to death, tore apart their broken bodies... slaking their thirst with the hot blood of victims, and devouring living writhing flesh".

It was an almost pornographic outpouring based on interpretations of the damaged skulls and bones that were found at Taung.

and later at Makapansgat and Sterkfontein.

This was picked up in the 1960s by the American Robert Ardrey, who transformed it into a best-seller, *African Genesis*, which promoted the view that mankind's origins were violent. Far from evolving big brains and then tools, "the weapon fathered the man", Ardrey claimed.

We made stones, axes and spears and evolved big brains to use them more efficiently, a notion echoed by Stanley Kubrick in the film 2001: A Space Odyssey. On the other hand, there is a delicious irony in a casino complex which is a monument to the lunatics of apartheid, a notion echoed by the same Kubrick in the film 2001: A Space Odyssey. The image is clear: technology is driven by our urge to make weapons, and to murder. It suggests war is in our genes, we should feel neither guilt nor responsibility. Killing is instinctive and natural. This notion is perpetuated by modern biological determinists who believe that many human actions today are best explained as behaviour inherited from our primitive ancestors.

Yet Dart's whole edifice was based on misinterpreted evidence, as scientists have recently discovered. *Africanus* probably did not use tools, never mind weapons, and was hunted, not the hunter. The skulls and bones had been left by leopards and other predators who had brought their prey to their lairs. The Taung child was probably an eagle's victim.

Robin McKie is co-author of *African Exodus* (Jonathan Cape) with Professor Chris Stringer of the Natural History Museum.

Scientists turn the tables on racial view of man's origins

GOD does not play dice, Einstein always insisted, so the clatter of roulette tables and one-armed bandits would seem a singularly inappropriate setting for a serious investigation into the origins of humanity.

On the other hand, there is a delicious irony in a casino complex which is a monument to the lunatics of apartheid, a notion echoed by the same Kubrick in the film 2001: A Space Odyssey. The image is clear: technology is driven by our urge to make weapons, and to murder. It suggests war is in our genes, we should feel neither guilt nor responsibility. Killing is instinctive and natural. This notion is perpetuated by modern biological determinists who believe that many human actions today are best explained as behaviour inherited from our primitive ancestors.

More than 700 delegates from 75 countries concluded a unique interdisciplinary conference at Sun City in the former South African bantustan of Bophuthatswana at the weekend: a "dual congress" held by the International Association for the Study of Human Palaeontology and the International Association of Human Biologists.

For a week, surrounded by the casino's fake boulders, fake bushman paintings, rumbles of ersatz earthquakes and cries of non-existent wildlife, some of the world's top scientists argued about the accuracy of dating methods, the prehistoric tendencies of "Little Foot", whose remains are the latest contender for "missing link" status, and the claim to respectability of the "aquatic ape theory", which offers, among other things, an explanation of mankind's tendency to baldness and preference for the missionary position.

But underlying the myriad riddles which are the joy of palaeontology, sits a potentially explosive issue. It was represented at the

conference by a "race questionnaire" issued to delegates. It posed the single question, whether there are "biological races within the species *Homo sapiens*".

The answer turns on a related issue which has long taxed palaeontological circles but is, with the help of biologists, in the process of being decided: the relative claims of what are known as the "Out of Africa" theory and "multi-regionalism".

The names are misleading, because most respectable scientists now accept that mankind originated in Africa 5 million years ago.

The argument turns more on which bastion of emigrants played Mayflower to the rest of the world: *Homo erectus*, who seemingly left Africa shores 1.5 million years ago, or *Homo sapiens*, who is held to have gone forth to conquer a mere 150,000 years ago, exterminating the remnants of *erectus*.

At the heart of the argument lies the question whether the racial characteristics of present-day man — notably skin colour — are the product of comparatively recent, and therefore superficial, adaptations to environment or represent a far longer and possibly more significant process of evolution.

The champion of the multi-regionalist approach was a blunt-talking Australian university professor, Allen Thorne, from Canberra. "I believe race exists," he said. "I don't think there was a second Out of Africa, because I don't think there was a new species. I think it's been the same species for the last two million years."

The Out of Africa hypothesis meant *H. sapiens* would have had to wipe out all the other hominid populations in the world — such as the Neanderthals. "Hitler didn't manage that, so how does a bunch of guys with a few spears and rocks?"

Biological differences between population groups

UCLA, who discovered *Ardipithecus ramidus*, the earliest hominid remains on record, dating back 4.4 million years. "The earliest anatomically modern people are indeed African and Middle Eastern — and date to little more than 100,000 years ago. The earliest people in Australia may be as old as 40-50,000 years."

ern people, and that is Africa."

The Neanderthals and their counterparts in China and Java had become extinct and, at most, "their contribution to our ancestry is very low". So-called racial features had evolved "very recently" in Europe, probably 20,000 years ago.

There was growing support for this theory from genetics, Prof Stringer said.

One of the world's leading geneticists, Sir Walter Bodmer, principal of Hartford College, Oxford, and former director of the Imperial Cancer Research Fund, backed them. He pointed out that gene frequency analysis in modern populations was capable of showing that in the 12th century Henry II sent Flemish workers to Pembrokeshire to develop the area and keep out the Celts. Similar analysis of statistical patterns strongly supported

the Out of Africa hypothesis.

"All the evidence suggests that about 150,000 years ago there was a later migration out of Africa of a species that was very close to what we are, if not the same as *Homo sapiens*. It's the descendants of those that formed the different population groups in different parts of the world," he said.

"Most of the genetic variation in human populations is found within any population, and a minority of it relates to difference between them. You can take a population of 1,000 individuals from anywhere and they will have as much variation, almost as a population of 1,000 sampled from all over the world. The differences between populations is far less than the differences within them."

"There is no credence to a demarcation of human populations into clearly separated population groups."

Pay Nothing Until July 1999

This incredible top spec 300M-II PC with a massive 64MB RAM memory and large 8.6Gb hard disk is available on 12 months interest free credit for just £898 + VAT!

12 Months Interest Free Credit
8.6 Gb Hard Disk
£898
£1055.15 inc VAT

300M-II

HomePC™ Special Exec

- 300M-II 100MHz processor
- 64MB RAM
- 8.6Gb hard disk
- 32x MAX CD-ROM
- Creative Labs 3D waveable sound
- 14" SVGA colour screen
- 4MB ATI Rage II+ DVD 3D Graphics
- 512K pipeline burst cache
- 5800 of software including Lotus SmartSuite 97
- IBM Gold speech recognition
- Intel advanced chipset motherboard
- FREE Microsoft Windows 95
- FREE 56k voice modem (not included)
- FREE Epson 300 colour printer (not included)

All standard features including Creative APT case, 512K cache, 32x MAX CD-ROM, 100MHz processor, 14" SVGA colour screen, 8.6Gb hard disk, 32x MAX CD-ROM, 512K pipeline burst cache, 5800 of software including Lotus SmartSuite 97.

HomePC™ Special Exec

12 Months Interest Free Credit

Pay Nothing Until July 1999

0% NO Deposit NO Payments NO Interest

we're on your side

0800 771107

we're on your side

we're on your side

we're on your side

we're on your side

we're on your side

we're on your side

we're on your side

we're on your side

we're on your side

we're on your side

we're on your side

Mugabe responds to land squats with revived settlement plan

Andrew Meldrum in Harare

PRESIDENT Robert Mugabe's government has announced an ambitious land redistribution plan after a squating campaign by thousands of Zimbabweans. It said last week that it intends to acquire 12.5 million acres of land for the resettlement of 100,000 peasant families during the next five years, and would hold an international conference in September to raise funds for the project, estimated to cost about £1.3 billion.

"Our hard-won peace and stability is threatened by our people's urgent need for fertile land," the minister of state, Joseph Muka, said. "I shudder to think what the future holds for us if we do not achieve an equitable distribution of our land."

The plan was announced after thousands of peasants, frustrated by years of government inaction, began invading land owned by white farmers and claiming it for themselves. In the past month squatting has broken out in northern, southern and central Zimbabwe. Pointing to grinding stones used by their grandmothers, and family grave sites, the peasants say the land was seized by British colonialists without compensation, and they want it back.

They have been encouraged by several speeches in which Mr Mugabe vowed that his government would get the



Zimbabweans cross a fence to squat on a farm near Marondera PHOTOGRAPH: ANDREW MELDRUM

land back without "paying a penny for the soil". Since the country achieved majority rule in 1980, the government has resettled an estimated 70,000 families on about 7.5 million acres. But many of those resettlement projects have failed because of poor planning. The new plan aims to resettle 100,000 families, totalling more than 800,000 people, on land bought from white commercial farmers.

Mr Muka said the government would pay only for improvements to the properties, such as dams, roads and buildings, not for the land itself. This contradicts earlier government assurances to donors that owners would be paid the full market value of their land. Mr Muka said the resettlement plan would go ahead with or without international assistance.

"This plan must succeed," he said. "It must benefit people of all colours in our country. It will be of tremendous importance for the entire southern African region, because our neighbours like Namibia and South Africa also have disturbing inequities in land which must be addressed. If we fail, then confusion and turmoil over land could spread throughout the region."

مكتبة القرآن

Hong Kong bids a fond farewell to its white knuckle ride airport

The great move from Kowloon is prompting instant nostalgia for the noisy, vertiginous flight route.
John Gittings reports

THE removal vans began rolling last night — all of them — in Hong Kong's great airport move. Last week's visit by Bill Clinton was a distant memory as the media and most of the public focused on the real event of the year.

As Kai Tak airport, famous for its vertiginous approach over Kowloon rooftops, shut, a fleet of trucks, barges and planes shifted vital gear and themselves to the new airport on Lantau island.

Many Hong Kong families flew out of Kai Tak during the day to spend the night elsewhere in the region — and then fly back today to the new airport. Shops in the departure area sold out as everything became a souvenir.

After the last planes had taken off, the runway lights were switched off in a ceremony shown live on all four television channels.

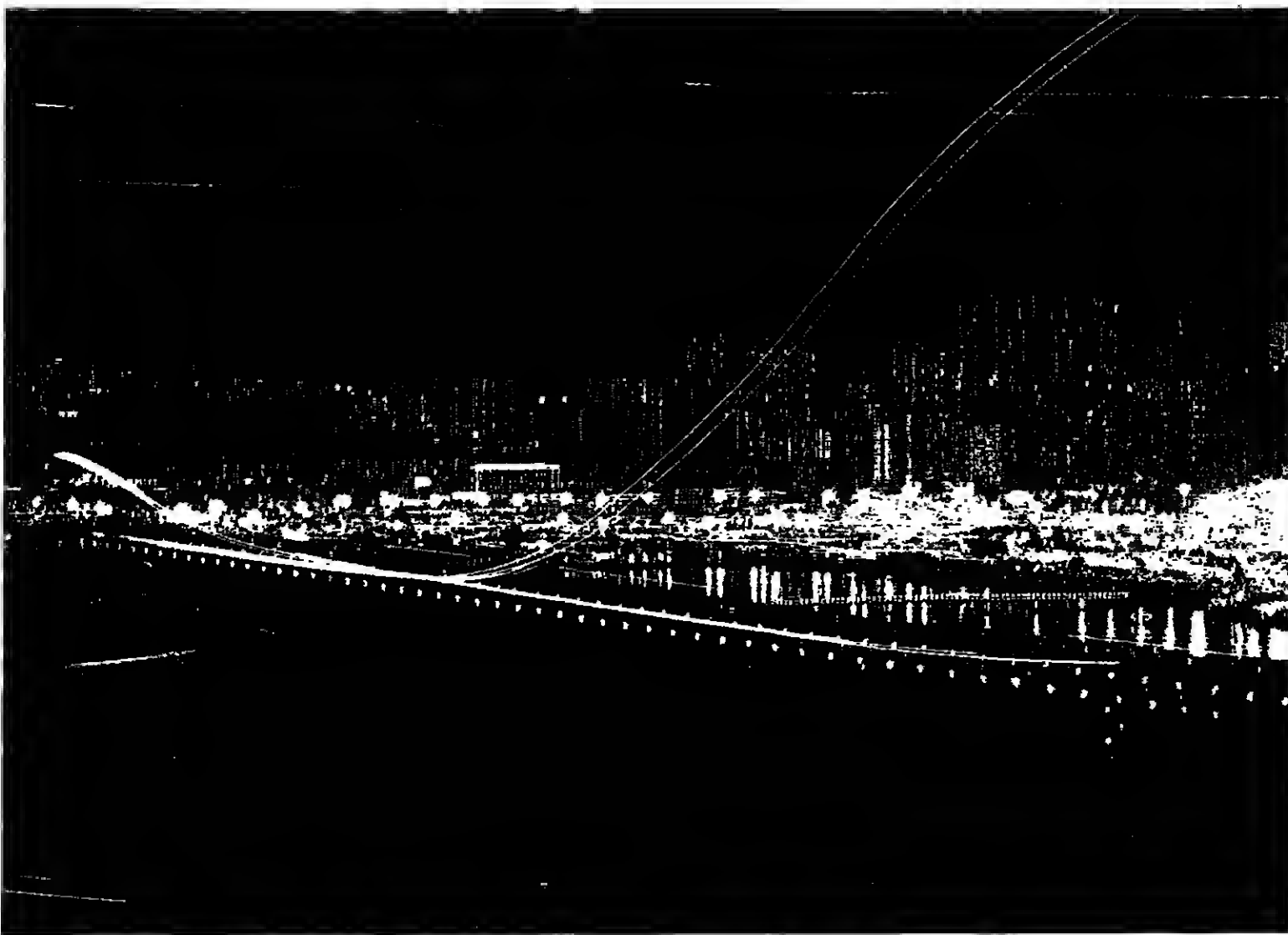
Kai Tak fever has been almost as intense as the excitement over Hong Kong's handover on July 1 last year. By comparison, the handover anniversary last week was hardly noticed.

Operation Night Move had a narrow window of opportunity: the last flight was scheduled to leave Kai Tak at 11:30pm; the first was due to arrive at Chek Lap Kok at 6:30 this morning.

A fleet of trucks and barges was needed to transport essential equipment which could not be moved earlier, including fire and rescue equipment and some massive cargo-loaders.

Thirty passenger aircraft were also moved from one airport to the other to be pre-positioned for morning flights out of Chek Lap Kok.

The earliest convoy to leave Kai Tak yesterday evening in-



Some of the final flights landing at and departing from Kai Tak airport are caught by a time-exposure photograph

PHOTOGRAPH: BOBBY YIP

cluded a squadron of motorised aircraft steps, speeding inconspicuously through urban Kowloon.

Roads were closed and police tactical units deployed to prevent crowd interference. Earlier, a senior police officer had given a solemn pledge that neither of the two chosen routes would be affected by landslides.

Kowloon residents whose lives had been made a misery by the busy flight path over their heads — which only closed for a few hours each night — said yesterday that they would miss the excitement.

Pilots who constantly made the tight "checkerboard

turn", and still had sweaty palms, told the television reports they would miss the challenge.

Ordinary users of the airport, which reached capacity 12 years ago, said they would miss it "for sentimental reasons".

Sightseers squatted on traffic islands to photograph planes as they were briefly framed in the sky between blocks of flats. In spite of police appeals, a stream of spectators flowed into every possible space around the airport.

Nostalgic archive footage on television showed the Beatles arriving at Kai Tak and trim ground staff behind

1960s-style check-in desks. There were grimmer sequences of crashed aircraft being fished out of the harbour. But only 12 serious accidents have occurred since the second world war: no plane has ever failed to complete the rooftop turn and only a few have run out of runway.

Nearly all Hong Kong's newspapers led yesterday with the Kai Tak story and they are expected to do so again today. The exception was the pro-Beijing Da Gong Bao, which led with the story of a border agreement between China and Kazakhstan.

But the Sunday Morning Post sounded a different note with a story alleging that the

government had struck a deal with contractors at the new airport to prevent public knowledge of fatal casualties among construction workers.

It said 49 workers had died since 1965 working on the \$12 billion project. The accident rate was above international standards — although it was still only two-thirds of the Hong Kong average.

Work began on the great move to Chek Lap Kok at the beginning of June. By the time it is finally concluded in early August, it will have involved more than 10,000 vehicle movements and 70 barges.

The first flight, operated by Imperial Airways, landed at Kai Tak in March 1936. Dur-

ing the war, the Japanese expanded the airport using prison labour. It was further expanded in 1954 and again in 1975, when the runway was extended into the sea to take jumbo jets. By 1995 it had become the third busiest international airport in the world, handling 29.5 million passengers.

The new airport at Chek Lap Kok has only just been completed in time. Although it has been hailed as a great engineering project, Hong Kongers will be quick to criticise any defects. The virtues of the old airport, a convenient taxi ride from the Kowloon side of the harbour, will be mourned in retrospect.

News in brief

Vatican aide calls for more food for Sudan

FAMINE in Sudan's southern Bahr el Ghazal region has worsened, and up to 80 per cent of people in some areas are suffering from malnutrition, the Pope's administrator for the area said in Nairobi yesterday.

Monsignor Caesar Mazzone, who has been visiting the region's Rumbek diocese, said in a statement: "The food distributed by the United Nations World Food Programme, aid agencies and the Churches is far from being enough."

He said the WFP was able to deliver only about half the 10,000 tons of food needed each month. "The famine is now hitting hard the children, the disabled, the elderly and the lepers — those who have most difficulty in reaching the food distribution centres," he said.

"I witnessed dramatic cases of starving mothers with their children collapsing on an airstrip after walking all night — and finding that the food distribution had ended."

He said an increase in the flow of food to the famine-hit areas was urgently needed in July and August. — Reuters, Nairobi

Fighting flares in Bissau

FORCES loyal to Guinea-Bissau's government exchanged fire with rebel soldiers in the capital yesterday in some of the fiercest fighting since the military revolt began four weeks ago, Portuguese media said.

The news agency Lusa said a long column of black smoke could be seen over Bissau, possibly streaming from the Chinese embassy, where flammable material was believed to be stored. The embassy is near the rebel stronghold in the Bra military complex, close to the airport. Another report said the smoke might have been caused by petrol bombs.

In an interview with Lusa at the weekend, Guinea-Bissau's president, Joao Bernardo Vieira, reiterated that peace talks were conditional on a rebel ceasefire. — Reuters, Lisbon

Bucharest adviser arrested

A SENIOR Romanian government official was arrested for accepting thousands of dollars as a bribe from an American businessman, a local news agency reported yesterday. Petre Isac, a government adviser, is alleged to have demanded \$10,000 from Vasile Bouleanu for permission to build two water purification plants, Mediafax said.

Mr Bouleanu, a Romanian-born American, told a presidential aide, who helped to organise a sting. Police allegedly caught Mr Isac with marked notes on him. — AP, Bucharest

Berber protest at Arabic law

ALGERIA began enforcing a new law yesterday which makes Arabic compulsory for all official business, despite protests from the country's Berber minority. Hundreds of Berber activists took to the streets of central Algiers to denounce the policy and demand recognition of their Tamazight tongue as an official language too.

Up to 5 million Algerians are believed to be Berber-speakers, mostly in the mountainous Kabylie region in the north-east. For 30 years activists have tried to have their language given the same official status as Arabic. A hitherto unknown Berber group threatened last week to eliminate any Algerians who tried to apply the Arabisation policy. — Reuters, Algiers

Ronaldo craze kicks in

AT LEAST 15 boys born in the past two weeks in the southern Albanian town of Berat have been named after the Brazilian football star Ronaldo. Registrar Lumtur Dymrishi said he was impressed by how often the striker's name was appearing on birth certificates.

Youths in the town have also taken to wearing Ronaldo shirts and shaving their heads to imitate their idol.

Meanwhile, Thai media said eight inmates had seen their way out of a prison during the Croatia-Germany World Cup match. But the police refused to say whether the escape from the detention centre in Rayong, 80 miles south of Bangkok, occurred because guards were distracted. — Agencies, Tirana and Bangkok

Belgian museum exhibits a brief history of anarchy

Stephen Bates in Brussels

IN HIS large suburban house in a distinctly bourgeois part of Brussels, Jan Bucquoy, filmmaker and anarchist, is expanding his history of revolution. It's all about underpants.

After all, this is the home of surrealism. So convinced is Bucquoy that the revolution can start from Brussels that he has opened one of the oddest museums that even Belgium has seen — in his front room. Le Musée des Underpants Museum — is meant to shock the system.

"I want to provoke the establishment, attack its power, provoke a coup d'état... it's not for tourists. It's not Magritte. Underpants can also be a statement," he explains.

Bucquoy, small, plump, jolly, the author of a cult film called *The Sex Life of Belgians*, is in a line of national surrealists, stretching back to the painter René Magritte and forward to Noel Godin, the celebrated *entarteur* (ple-thrower) of Brussels whose mission in life is to lead custard pies in the faces of the rich, famous and pompous.

Godin, author of *Cream and Punishment*, caught Bill Gates with a pie this year and has successfully targeted such French notables as the philosopher Bernard-Benri Levy and the late novelist Marguerite Duras. Not surprisingly, he is a mate of Bucquoy and had a part in his film. For him, too, the art of the *entarteur* is a political statement.

Anyone visiting the underpants museum in Rue Nestor de Tiers on a Sunday morning — it only opens on Sunday mornings, when all good Belgians are in church — will be treated to a tour of the pants hanging framed on the walls and assaults on such national heroes as the late king Baudouin and Tintin.

It has to be said that the

underpants, as worn by Belgian television presenters, singers and football coaches, are on the mundane side, as are the Y-fronts that adorn pictures of the heads of such famous Americans as Clark Gable and Abraham Lincoln.

Surprisingly, the current king, Baudouin, a devout and saintly figure who died in 1993, appears to arouse particular fury. He is depicted in a series of collages gazing at naked men.

Surprisingly, the current king, Baudouin's younger brother Albert does not figure in the exhibition. "I don't feel the same way about him. He rides a motorbike in his spare time," the artist said.

Tintin also comes in for a slating. He is pictured doing unmentionable things to his pet dog, Snowy.

Alas, for all Bucquoy's assaults on the system and the Belgian government and its royal family are still in place. The notorious paedophile Marc Dutroux, now awaiting trial, has done rather more to undermine the institutions of the state by exposing the incompetence of the authorities.

"Yes, well, Dutroux represents the black side and I am the white side," Bucquoy said. "Revolution by arms is not possible but democracy doesn't offer this possibility of total change. Copernicus, Darwin, Bob Dylan — they all changed society with their thoughts. Ten people visiting here would be enough."

Unfortunately, not even the lure of free coffee and biscuits was enough to entice a single other visitor during the museum's first hour and a half of opening yesterday. The underpants revolution may have to wait a little longer.

Bucquoy offered the Guardian copies of his radical satirical magazine and a calendar of photographs of himself in a series of naked full-frontal and timescent poses, then trotted off to feed the chickens in his back garden: a very Belgian pastime.

Aid plan adds to woes for Tajikistan poor

The old and sick are left behind by their families, reports Claudia McElroy from Dushanbe

RAISA BURIYEV, a 72-year-old widow with a debilitating heart complaint, is finding it increasingly difficult to look after her son Yevgeny, who has been bedridden for the past eight years.

Their combined state pension of about 21.60 a month is barely enough to buy a pound of meat and six loaves of bread, while just one of the medications they need would cost more than \$5 a week.

They have sold most of the contents of their house in the Tajik capital, Dushanbe, to make ends meet.

"Conditions here have been getting worse and worse, that's why all the family left to find better opportunities. Because of the war they never come here and they can't send any money," said Raisa, looking at a photograph of two granddaughters who left for Estonia with their mother.

On the other side of the city, Olim and Odil Saidov are also prisoners in their home. Olim, aged 41, has been bedridden since an operation on his liver left him paralysed down one side five years ago.

He is cared for by Odil, aged 62, who had both legs amputated at the thigh after a sclerotic illness led to gangrene.

"The brothers' relatives have also left to seek a better life in Russia, leaving the men to survive on a state benefit of less than \$1 per month."

Olim, a trained engineer like his brother, spends his days dreaming of being able to complete the projects he was working on before he became paralysed.

"I have designs for many useful projects in the villages such as flour mills and mini-hydroes," he said. "Chinese investors showed interest — until the war came along."

Odil, who moves around

with the aid of homemade crutches, is bitter: "What hope is there for someone in my condition?"

The answer is that there is little hope in Dushanbe, where chronic poverty among the elderly and disabled has reached epidemic proportions. Tajikistan was the poorest Soviet republic even before the outbreak of civil war in 1992 brought about the total collapse of the economy.

Now about 80 per cent of the population live below the poverty line, unable to meet even their basic needs.

The elderly and disabled, whose only source of income is the state pension, are among those hardest hit by the collapse of the Soviet welfare system.

A spokesman for the charity *Disuz* (Mercy) said many elderly and disabled people were turning to charity as the only hope.

"Our caseload has multiplied four-fold over the past four years, as many people see us as their only hope. But no matter how much we do it never seems enough. Although the government says one of its priorities is to improve the social welfare of invalids, it can't do anything until the economy improves," he said.

Tajikistan was by no means the only republic that inherited a fragile economy from the Soviet Union. But its unique circumstances, including the lack of a manufacturing base and a crippling foreign debt, were compounded by a civil war and the economy went into free fall.

Since 1995 the government has been following an economic reform programme sponsored by the International Monetary Fund and the World Bank with over \$150 million in loans. The programme is aimed at bringing free-market capitalism to rapidly changing societies such as the former Soviet republics.

But the austerity measures, coupled with liberalisation of prices, have caused hardship to many people, and wages lag far behind inflation.

£269 a month including service and maintenance.

TAKE A SECOND LOOK AT OUR FINANCE DEALS

From now, until the end of July, choose any of our new cars and finance them with a 9.9% APR. That's right, 9.9% APR. And that's on a 3-year, 60,000-mile package. So you can enjoy the best of both worlds: a great car and a great price.

For private purchasers, the SAAB option plan. Cash Price = £11,075, Deposit = £2,405, Finance = £11,625. Monthly Rental = £274.26, Total Rental/GPV = £16,337.72.

APR = 9.9%

FOR BUSINESS USERS ONLY, THE SAAB CONTRACT HIRE SCHEME. Cash Price = £11,075, Financial Rental = £11,625, VAT, Monthly Rental = £274.26 + VAT.

Typical Example: New Saab 9-3 2.0T 5-door - 100,000 miles, 3 years, 60,000 miles. Typical Example: New Saab 9-3 2.0T 5-door - 100,000 miles, 3 years, 60,000 miles. Typical Example: New Saab 9-3 2.0T 5-door - 100,000 miles, 3 years, 60,000 miles.

Full terms and conditions available on request. Excludes vehicles subject to special conditions. All figures are in pounds sterling. Finance and rental are correct as of 1st July 1998. All figures are in pounds sterling. Finance and rental are correct as of 1st July 1998.

It's worth a double take.

le calls for
for Sudan

Johnny Speight

Life with Alf

I HAVE often wondered what would happen if I went up to a complete stranger in a bar and threw my drink in his face. Just what would he do? Just how would he react? So once I asked the writer Johnny Speight, who has died aged 78. In fact, he spent 30 years doing something very similar — throwing our prejudices in our faces through the rambling, poisonous outpourings of Alf Garnett. Speight was always uncharacteristically modest when he discussed the belligerent, bigoted old bully. "I didn't create Alf Garnett," he said. "Society did. I just graced on him."

Speight first chronicled the doings of Alf played by Warren Mitchell, in a half-hour play in the BBC's series of one-offs, *Comedy Playhouse*, in 1964. Several wildly successful runs of *Till Death Do Us Part* and two movies later, Alf had entered the collective psyche to such an extent that a newspaper poll reported that seven out of 10 people in Britain thought he was real.

He loudly and often drunkenly voiced every revolting prejudice there was, and viewers loved him for it. No one was safe from Alf — blacks, Jews, Catholics, Liverpudlians, Irish, his neighbours. He distrusted and detested them all. No one was spared except Her Majesty the Queen, about whom Alf became misty-eyed with reverence.

This led to a somewhat ambivalent attitude towards Speight: how much was Johnny and how much was Alf? In reality, except for a shared Cockney background, they had almost nothing in common. Alf was an old-style hang 'em and flog 'em Tory. Speight was an affable, cynical ex-jazz musician with a soft stammer and an old-style Marxist outlook on life.

The son of a London dockworker, he was born in Canning Town and left school at 14. "I hated school," he said. "We used to plan escapes, or try to acquire a disease, anything to get out of school. We used to think you were lucky if you got TB."

If someone got TB we'd all try and catch it off him. If one of the kids had it, we'd get him to breathe all over us, or spit in our sandwiches. Speight worked for various companies in the East End while polishing his skills as a drummer, and in his late teens formed a band called the Syncopated Rhythm Boys. He progressed to Howard Wynn-Jones and his Big Broadcast Band, a ramshackle outfit with delusions of grandeur, and then his own band, Johnny Speight and his Hot Shots.

The second world war interrupted his musical career and he was sent by the Army to help dispose of the bodies of German soldiers on the battlefield of France. Understandably, he loathed it, but later his cynical, jaunty reasserted itself. "I must say that I don't regret one moment of the war. It was the first time in my life that I had a bed to myself."

Back in civvy street, Speight found work as a drummer hard to come by. While working as an insurance salesman — another job he hated because his conscience got in the way of making money — he discovered his vocation as a writer through George Bernard Shaw. "I was always reading some remark of his in the newspapers. They were always very funny and I imagined him to be a stand-up comic, like Tommy Trinder. Then looking in Canning Town public library one day, I saw this shelf of books and thought 'Christ, he writes as well!' Reading Shaw was to me at that time as near as one could get to a divine revelation. It was as though a light had been turned on and every dark recess lit by sweet reason."

Speight devoured everything Shaw wrote and then moved on to other authors Shaw had mentioned — Strindberg, Chekhov, Ibsen. He joined the Unity Theatre and began to write plays about the evils of capitalism and the rights of men, work he later dismissed as "a load of crap. I think you have to write all the rubbish out of yourself for five years before you realise what writing is all about."

His move into comedy writing came at a rare low ebb when a throwaway line was heard by Spike Milligan and Eric Sykes. Speight developed more humorous material and was introduced to Frankie Howard by an army friend backstage at the Prince of Wales Theatre. Howard showed some of Speight's gags to his own writers, Ray Galton and Alan Simpson, and Milligan and Sykes. Soon Speight was incorporated into a team of fertile comic-writing talents.

His work was first heard on a radio show called *Mr Ros* — and *Mr Ray*, starring Eduardo Ros and Ray Ellington, two bandleaders who, according to Speight, "not only couldn't act, they could hardly talk proper. So any big words would have been lost, not only on their audience, but on them as well. I did about five gags each show and I got about £15 a week."

He went on to write *The Frankie Howard Show* with Terry Nation and John Antrobus, and also provided material for Peter Sellers, Morecambe and Wise, Arthur Askey, Cyril Fletcher and Vic Oliver, but found himself frustrated because most comedians had characters of their own that left little scope for a writer to experiment.

All this changed when he started to work for Arthur Haynes, and in Haynes's contemptuous, know-all tramp Speight created the embryo of Alf Garnett. He wrote 500 radio and television shows for Haynes in nine years and loved the portly, beady-eyed little comic. "Haynes was one of the first truly great television comedians," he said. "With Arthur there was no over-emphasis in performance. He seemed to do it all with his eyes, and when he

played a character he gave the impression that he had just walked in off the street." During the years he worked for Haynes, Speight wrote two TV plays, *The Compartment* and *The Playmates* (which won a Screen Writers' Guild Award), and a stage play, *The Knacker's Yard*. Then came *Till Death Do Us Part*, with Mitchell brilliantly supported by Dandy Nichols as Elsie, his long-suffering "silly moo" wife, Una Stubbs as daughter Rita and Anthony Booth as "Scouse git" son-in-law Mike.

Alf and his family brought Speight wealth, big cars and a palatial house but he always retained something of a streetwise Jack-the-Lad character. He described himself as "an egotist, a moralist, a very shy man or a very anti-social one, and a nasty bastard at times". Warren Mitchell said of him: "The height of Johnny's enjoyment of life is to actually travel on the team coach to a football match."

The Garnett saga proved to be eminently exportable; versions were made in Holland, Germany, and, most successfully, in the United States, where *All In The Family* won a number of Emmy awards. Back in England, Dandy Nichols left the cast but returned for a series of *In Sickness and In Health*, in which an older, mellowed Alf is seen as an urban folk hero, a champion of the old and disabled, taking on bureaucracy.

In the 1980s Speight had his share of failures — a projected series co-written with Ray Galton about politicians in the state government was shelved by the BBC, and Channel 4's *The Lady Is A Tramp*, with Patricia Hayes, was disliked by the critics. *Curry and Chips*, a racial comedy with Sykes and Milligan, got high ratings but was dropped by London

Weekend Television after complaints about its condescending attitude towards Pakistanis. By the 1990s Speight was having problems with the new era of what was then called "political correctness". In 1992 the BBC pulled the plug on a six-part series of *In Sickness and In Health*; in the previous series there had been complaints about Alf's language and his attitude to lesbianism and AIDS. An irritated Speight said in 1995: "I'm looked on as a kind of dissident. There's a terrible censorship now. So many subjects are taboo. It seems to me that if you want to write the truth you have to be careful not to be too truthful. You have to lie a bit. They want fiction, real fiction, now rather than face up to unpleasant facts. Cardiohard characters and banality seem to be the 'in' thing."

Some intriguing projects went unrealised. One was a film he planned with Alf as a grandfather — the long-lost baby boy briefly seen to episodes in the early 1970s becomes the youngest Labour prime minister and Alf, who is discovered by the media, becomes the government's relative from hell. (Tony Booth, who had played the boy's father, is in real life Tony Blair's father-in-law.)

Speight, who had a long and happy marriage and three children, regretted that there seemed no room for Alf Garnett as social mores changed. "It's been a quiet couple of years for Alf," he said recently, "but as far as I'm concerned he never died. He's a product of his background. He may be ignorant but, you know, Alf's not unusual at all. Unfortunately, the world is full of Alf Garnetts. You can't encourage racists to be any worse than they are. And the fact that you raise these points of view and make fun of them makes people more inclined to think about them. If you never mention them, they just go on."

Stephen Dixon

Johnny Speight, comedy writer, born June 2, 1920; died July 5, 1998

Alf may be ignorant but he's not unusual. The world is full of Alf Garnetts

my's enjoyment of life is to actually travel on the team coach to a football match."

The Garnett saga proved to be eminently exportable; versions were made in Holland, Germany, and, most successfully, in the United States, where *All In The Family* won a number of Emmy awards. Back in England, Dandy Nichols left the cast but returned for a series of *In Sickness and In Health*, in which an older, mellowed Alf is seen as an urban folk hero, a champion of the old and disabled, taking on bureaucracy.

In the 1980s Speight had his share of failures — a projected series co-written with Ray Galton about politicians in the state government was shelved by the BBC, and Channel 4's *The Lady Is A Tramp*, with Patricia Hayes, was disliked by the critics. *Curry and Chips*, a racial comedy with Sykes and Milligan, got high ratings but was dropped by London

Weekend Television after complaints about its condescending attitude towards Pakistanis. By the 1990s Speight was having problems with the new era of what was then called "political correctness". In 1992 the BBC pulled the plug on a six-part series of *In Sickness and In Health*; in the previous series there had been complaints about Alf's language and his attitude to lesbianism and AIDS. An irritated Speight said in 1995: "I'm looked on as a kind of dissident. There's a terrible censorship now. So many subjects are taboo. It seems to me that if you want to write the truth you have to be careful not to be too truthful. You have to lie a bit. They want fiction, real fiction, now rather than face up to unpleasant facts. Cardiohard characters and banality seem to be the 'in' thing."

Some intriguing projects went unrealised. One was a film he planned with Alf as a grandfather — the long-lost baby boy briefly seen to episodes in the early 1970s becomes the youngest Labour prime minister and Alf, who is discovered by the media, becomes the government's relative from hell. (Tony Booth, who had played the boy's father, is in real life Tony Blair's father-in-law.)

Speight, who had a long and happy marriage and three children, regretted that there seemed no room for Alf Garnett as social mores changed. "It's been a quiet couple of years for Alf," he said recently, "but as far as I'm concerned he never died. He's a product of his background. He may be ignorant but, you know, Alf's not unusual at all. Unfortunately, the world is full of Alf Garnetts. You can't encourage racists to be any worse than they are. And the fact that you raise these points of view and make fun of them makes people more inclined to think about them. If you never mention them, they just go on."

Stephen Dixon

Johnny Speight, comedy writer, born June 2, 1920; died July 5, 1998

Alf may be ignorant but he's not unusual. The world is full of Alf Garnetts

my's enjoyment of life is to actually travel on the team coach to a football match."

The Garnett saga proved to be eminently exportable; versions were made in Holland, Germany, and, most successfully, in the United States, where *All In The Family* won a number of Emmy awards. Back in England, Dandy Nichols left the cast but returned for a series of *In Sickness and In Health*, in which an older, mellowed Alf is seen as an urban folk hero, a champion of the old and disabled, taking on bureaucracy.

In the 1980s Speight had his share of failures — a projected series co-written with Ray Galton about politicians in the state government was shelved by the BBC, and Channel 4's *The Lady Is A Tramp*, with Patricia Hayes, was disliked by the critics. *Curry and Chips*, a racial comedy with Sykes and Milligan, got high ratings but was dropped by London



Speight... he once thought Bernard Shaw was a stand-up comic

PETER JONES



The lady of the lake... Mavis Guzelian (left, on the lap of a nanny) on Coniston Water as a child with her sisters

Mavis 'Titty' Guzelian

The first swallow of summer

MAVIS "Titty" Guzelian, who has died aged 78, was the highly original young girl who caught the imagination of a craggy Manchester Guardian journalist tormented by stomach ulcers and the alienation of his own, only daughter. As a result she received the mixed blessing of becoming the "real" version of a famous children's book character — Titty, the least predictable of Arthur Ransome's young swallows in the *Swallows and Amazons* adventures.

She led her own successful life, in art, medical administration and raising a family, but was always aware of her non-existent but far more celebrated counterpart. The complications were increased by the genuine emotion which Ransome put into his creation, whose model was more than passingly the daughter he never had.

Mavis's mother, Dora Collingwood, had turned down a proposal from Ransome when the writer — a student of her father W G Collingwood, John Ruskin's biographer — was an ambitious young man on the make. Ransome then contracted a disastrous marriage. Its break-up lay behind the alienation of his daughter Tabbitha. Meanwhile, Dora enjoyed a long and happy marriage to an Armenian doctor, Ernest Altounyan. Old ties were reformed when

the Altounyans and their children — Susie, Taqui, Titty, Roger and Brigit — met up in the summer of 1928 for a long, sunny holiday in the Lake District. Irritated with the Manchester Guardian — he described its venerable editorial corridor as "hutches for rabbits, some with diseased livers and swollen spleen" — Ransome was looking for a spur to write fiction full-time. The Altounyans' children gave it to him.

He acknowledged their influence in *Swallows and Amazons*' original dedication; his young crews were based on the Altounyans, the dinghies, the Swallows and the Amazon, were copies from the real boats, the Swallow and the Mavis, which he and Ernest clubbed together to buy.

In the case of his characters



Guzelian... imaginative

Roger and Titty Ransome did not even trouble to change the names. Mavis was better known throughout her life as Titty, a nickname taken from a favourite nursery rhyme. She discovered later in life that Ransome and his second wife, Evgenia Shlepinina, had asked to adopt her at the age of eight, and that the writer had always kept a portrait of her which her mother had given him instead. To her he remained "Uncle Arthur", although she confessed that fictional Titty "was so good and clever that she made me feel very inferior."

Mavis Guzelian was born in Aleppo in Syria and spent her early years dodging to and from between the Levant and the Lake District. She was educated at Annisgarth school, Windermere, and the Perse School, Cambridge, and seemed destined for a career in art after studying under Henry Moore in the late 1930s at Chelsea School of Art.

The war intervened, however, and she was dispatched to Jerusalem to write news bulletins. When victory came, she took over from Brigit as administrator of an Aleppo hospital. Titty's most fulfilling period followed her 1954 marriage to Melkon Guzelian, an Armenian refugee in Egypt. She followed him from Cairo to London and then back to the Lake District, where he maintained lodges and buses while Mavis painted and brought up

two daughters and a son at a house on Coniston (the backdrop to *Swallows and Amazons*).

The family re-encountered the Ransomes and might have inspired further books but the author's grumpiness increased with age, to the extent that he replaced his original dedication to the misbegotten grounds that the Altounyan children were claiming to great a part in the series' success.

The Guzelians moved finally to Bradford, to be close to their daughter Rachel and son Azadour, who had become a sought-after photographer. Titty produced more paintings and was engaged in translating her husband's memoirs from Armenian when she fell ill.

She was described by her sister Brigit Sanders, president of the Arthur Ransome Society, as having "a special relationship with Arthur Ransome because she was so imaginative". Some of the shows in solemnly quizzical photographs of her from the idyllic summer of 1928; and in her paintings, which are expected to form a posthumous exhibition. She leaves her husband and two children. Her other daughter predeceased her.

Martin Wainwright

Mavis Guzelian, painter and administrator, born May 28, 1920; died July 3, 1998

Catherine Kennedy

Aids and comfort

AIDS did not touch the family or friends of Catherine Kennedy, who has died of pancreatic cancer aged 51. And as a foreigner in New Haven, Connecticut, she had no powerful patrons in the state government. As for the local gay community, they could not figure out where this strong-willed Englishwoman with short blonde hair, who loved to jog, who had no political agenda, was coming from.

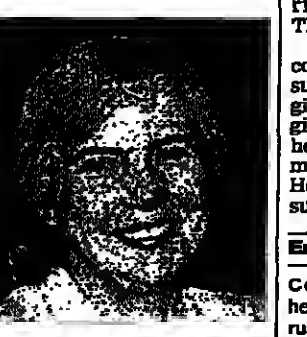
So her desire to set up a residential nursing home for AIDS patients was frankly utopian. But in eight years Catherine Kennedy accomplished the impossible. In the face of cancerous politics, sexism, bureaucracy and a small group of local medical and political figures, she created the Leeway aids facility. Opened in 1995, it is one of the finest such facilities in the United States. And her struggle has become a case study in not-for-profit entrepreneurship at the Harvard Business School.

In 1983 her husband, the historian Paul Kennedy, joined the brainiacs at Yale University. The move to the US involved a significant sacrifice of her own ambitions, but she took an MA in public and private management. The challenge of using the most sophisticated management tools in the public sector appealed to her. Catherine then worked on

the implications for the insurance industry of AIDS. The industry seemed primarily concerned to exclude high-risk social and sexual categories, and she found that repellent. So she discussed with her husband in the state government. As for the local gay community, they could not figure out where this strong-willed Englishwoman with short blonde hair, who loved to jog, who had no political agenda, was coming from.

So her desire to set up a residential nursing home for AIDS patients was frankly utopian. But in eight years Catherine Kennedy accomplished the impossible. In the face of cancerous politics, sexism, bureaucracy and a small group of local medical and political figures, she created the Leeway aids facility. Opened in 1995, it is one of the finest such facilities in the United States. And her struggle has become a case study in not-for-profit entrepreneurship at the Harvard Business School.

In 1983 her husband, the historian Paul Kennedy, joined the brainiacs at Yale University. The move to the US involved a significant sacrifice of her own ambitions, but she took an MA in public and private management. The challenge of using the most sophisticated management tools in the public sector appealed to her. Catherine then worked on



Kennedy... conscience

became a clerk in a local insurance office and at a parish dance met Paul, then a sixth-form grammar-school boy. They became inseparable. After taking a first in history from Newcastle University in 1968, Paul Kennedy went on to Oxford. They married a year later. Catherine worked as chief insurance officer for Robert Maxwell's chaotic Pergamon Press, and in the evenings typed her husband's dissertation. Three sons followed. In 1970 the family moved to Norwich, where Paul became a history lecturer at the University of East Anglia (UEA).

In 1975 Catherine graduated in economics with economic history from UEA, taking a master's — on the Edwardian philanthropic campaign to provide meals for poor schoolchildren — two years later. In Norwich she taught, and trained as a Catholic marriage guidance counsellor. Then came the US.

Catherine Kennedy's social conscience made her a persuasive advocate for the marginalised. Her humour, infectious faith, and devotion to her husband and her children made her a unique woman. Her husband and three sons survive her.

Eric Nommberg

Catherine Urwin Kennedy, health administrator, born February 12, 1947; died June 23, 1998

Letter

Isabel Adonis writes: In your obituary of my father, the painter, art historian, teacher, novelist, anthropologist and archaeologist Denis Williams (July 4) no mention was made that he had a private life. My mother, Catherine Williams, stayed up night after night to help create the books, provided inspiration for the paintings and fed the many artists, including Wilson Harris, who stayed with us. I rang my father shortly before he died, and he said of that time: "I saw everything through Catherine's eyes, she was so powerful."

A Country Diary

THE YORKSHIRE DALES: Baugh Fell above Garsdale — pronounced Bo Fell, like the Langdale peak — is a far bigger mountain, in area than anything in Lakeland, even falls like shapely Bow Fell, its namesake. Indeed, you could probably squeeze all the Howill fells within the area embraced by Baugh Fell, their bulky neighbour. But it's not a very high hill and, except on its steepish southern flank, a very sprawling mountain with long, rather tedious, ways to the top. I don't think I've ever met anybody up there. This time we went up from Garsdale, "the dale that died", so-called because the farms were suddenly deserted for economic reasons many years ago and now lie in ruins, with furniture, mattresses, cookers and children's toys abandoned to the elements. It was about 10 years since I had last been in

Birthdays

Dave Allen, comedian, 62; Vladimir Ashkenazy, pianist and conductor, 61; Man-reen Baker, race relations and civil liberties activist, 65; David Capel, cricketer, 55; Prof Gordon Conway, president, Rockefeller Foundation, 60; Baroness Cox, nurse, 61; John Cummings, Labour MP, 55; The XIVth Dalai Lama (Gyasto Tenzin), 63; Alan Freeman, disc jockey, 71; Peter Glossop, baritone, 70; Geraldine James, actress, 48; Jeff King, jockey, 57; Janet Leigh, actress, 71; William McCall, trade union leader, 68; John Makepeace, furniture designer, 59; Elliot Morley, MP, minister for fisheries, 45; Mary Peters, athlete, 59; Cathryn Pope, soprano, 41; Jonathan Porritt, ecologist, 48; Sir Charles Powell, former adviser to Mrs Thatcher, 57; Nancy Reagan, former US First Lady, 75; Jennifer Saunders, comedienne, 40; Tamara Sinayevskaya, operatic mezzo-soprano, 55; Betty Smith, saxophonist, singer, 69; Sylvester Stallone, film actor and director, 52.

CORRECTIONS AND CLARIFICATIONS

IN AN article that began on page 6 of G2, July 1, headed "The kick inside", we said, "The murder of Tupac Shakur" was allegedly retaliation for the killing of rival rapper Biggie Smalls. This would not have been possible. Tupac Shakur was killed on September 13, 1996, six months before Biggie Smalls, who was killed on March 9, 1997.

THE DIRECTOR of *The X-Files* is not Peter Weir, who was mistakenly credited with it in our Top-10 US film list, page 21, Friday Review, July 3. The director is Rob Bowman.

IT WAS not correct to say, as we did on page 24, July 3, that Roosevelt's presidency "ended just after the second world war victory". Roosevelt died on April 12, 1945, six months before Biggie Smalls, who was killed on March 9, 1997.

It is the policy of the Guardian to correct errors as soon as possible. Please quote date and page number. Readers may contact the office of the Readers' Editor by telephoning 0171 235 9339 between 11am and 5pm, Monday to Friday. Surface mail to Readers' Editor, The Guardian, 115, Farringdon Road, London EC1R 3ER. Fax: 0171 235 9897. E-mail: reader@guardian.co.uk

Comment

e-mail

Jonathan Cook
@Azraq

EACH day at Azraq a modern caravan of air-conditioned coaches arrives to disgorge its Lawrence of Arabia pilgrims. They congregate around the crumbling black basalt walls of the town's castle, another brief stop on a T.E. Lawrence trail that also takes in Jordan's weird desert rock formations of Wadi Rum and the Red Sea town of Aqaba.

A kiosk close to the castle's large, stone doors dispenses faded postcards and overpriced drinks to these travellers of the far east. Nada, the guardian of the ruins, stands close by, equally obliging.

To anyone who cares to listen, he talks about his uncle, Mouled. Until six months ago, when ill-health forced him to retire, Mouled was guardian — and, say some, more of an attraction than the castle itself.

Although Mouled was only five in the winter of 1917, when Lawrence made the castle his headquarters and planned his campaign against the Turks, he has spent several decades vividly recounting his father's stories about the great man. Less immediately clear today is why Lawrence of Arabia chose as his base this position deep in Jordan's eastern desert — known as Satan's desert because of its dark surface of volcanic rock. Or why, before the Ayyubids built the castle here in the 13th century, a series of settlements was established from 300 AD.

In fact, the Omayyads, Abbasids and many other long-forgotten peoples were drawn here because Azraq has the biggest oasis in this part of Jordan.

Or rather, it did. Since the 1960s the eastern desert has slowly withdrawn its precious gift.

By the early 1990s, after years of over-irrigation to feed the rapidly expanding populations in the north, the 10 square kilometres of swamp had disappeared, apart from a brief flourish each winter. This year even that meagre pool failed to appear.

BUT in parched Azraq hope is not drained away like the water. The town may no longer attract the thousands of migrating birds it was once famous for, but another migration — one that over-extends the trickle of tourists — has replaced it.

All day, every day, a procession of road tankers rumbles along the asphalt strip by the castle loaded with another prized liquid — black gold.

Their cargo is from Baghdad, to the east, a concession by the United Nations exempting oil-starved Jordan from observing the blockade on Saddam Hussein's Iraq, its parish neighbour.

Azraq, usefully located on the road to the country's refineries, has been one of the beneficiaries. The oasis has been reborn as a huge service station for the oil traffic, and its roads are now crowded with filling stations and tyre shops. This now seems to be the kind of oasis better suited to a mechanised age.

The New Politics



New rights for unmarried fathers will spread fear among women

Polly Toynbee



GOVERNMENTS can do no right when they enter the realm of the deeply personal. This week the green paper on the CSA is published, trying yet again to make fathers pay for their children. But whenever the state steps into the charged emotions of divorce and parental rights, they unleash an electric storm of random and unpredictable passion.

Even minor reforms open up the great ideological fault-line between liberals and moralisers, each seeking emblems of what kind of society we think we are. Machiavelli would have told his Prince to leave such stuff to God and the Pope: it's always a political loser.

However, Labour had no choice. The CSA is a disastrous, abandoned child on the doorstep, and something had to be done, although few expect miracles. Labour has also been landed with implementing the botched divorce law, passed in the dying days of the Conservative regime. Expect much trouble on this too.

As if that wasn't enough to be going on with, the Government is plunging into a new controversy. Last week they announced that unmarried fathers will get the same rights over their children as married men, as the Lord Chancellor's contribution to Jack Straw's demand for new ideas for the ministerial group on the family.

Any father whose name appears on the birth certificate — as they do for 80 per cent of children born outside marriage — will have automatic parental responsibility — as father's rights are called in law.

Reformers make a good case. If we want new men — fathers who take life-long responsibility for their children

— then the law must recognise their status. A third of babies are born outside marriage, but currently an unmarried father can't even stop a child being put up for adoption against his will. Is that fair? On the surface, it looks sensible. But in this emotional minefield nothing remains on the surface: it ignites explosive passions beneath.

As soon as the change was announced, groups representing women protested. One Parent Families was besieged with calls from women terrified that fathers they had successfully excluded from their lives (for good or bad reasons), would suddenly demand access and equal control over their children.

Bad men, difficult men or simply undesired men from long past relationships might turn up on the doorstep and make alarming demands. No, they were reassured. This would not be retrospective. The new rights would only apply to fathers whose children's birth certificate.

One Parent Families is deeply worried that many mothers, uncertain about what relationship they want with their child's father, may decide not to put his name on the birth certificate at all — denying children the right to know who their father is. They want a compromise: any father can apply for parental responsibility, currently, so registrars should tell fathers who sign a baby's birth certificate that they can apply for these rights. That gives the mother the chance to object in court if she wants.

The Lord Chancellor knew that mothers' groups would protest. But what came as a surprise was the outburst of indignation from the moral Right. Patricia Morgan, from

the Institute of Economic Affairs, called it another assault on marriage. "I'll tip the balance against men deciding to marry. Why marry if they have the same rights anyway? It reinforces the culture of fathering at a distance, dropping in for a bit of fathering when they feel like it," she said. The Daily Mail zapped out a leader calling it another nail in the coffin of traditional marriage. While the mothers' objections were ignored, the Government quaked before the Daily Mail.

Support for the change came only from fathers' groups. Though when you talk to some of their members, embroiled in long battles to get rights over babies against the mother's wishes, you often glimpse the darker passions involved. You understand why some mothers beg the courts to let them live in peace, some men do use rights to their children as a revenge weapon against women who rejected them.

SO WHY has the government recklessly plunged into all this? Announcing it a few days before the CSA green paper, it is intended to mollify fathers who are angry at proposed changes. The new CSA formula will simplify the system, taking less account of men's special circumstances — rough justice, they protest. Fathers' rights are supposed to be the *quid pro quo* if a man can be dunned by the CSA for 16 years following a one night stand, then he should have rights to match. But mothers are appalled that a one-night-stand father might be tied to her for life.

Fathers' rights may open a can of worms, while doing nothing to diffuse anger over the CSA. There is no

easy answer, no clear justice.

Meanwhile, the Government is heading into a storm on the new divorce law with a certain insouciance. Remember, it involves all couples attending a compulsory group "information" meeting when they first seek a divorce. Geoff Hoon, the Lord Chancellor's minister, blithely announced last week that "90 per cent of those who attended a pilot information meeting found the sessions useful". Sounds good? He forgot to mention that those attending were all volunteers. Once it's compulsory, expect rage and fury. Would Margaret and Robin Cook have sat obediently, humbly in a group of other would-be divorcees to be lectured to, even if the meeting is only for information on divorce?

The pilots show that by the time couples reach this stage, divorce is inevitable. A good idea, perhaps, for volunteers but compulsion is another matter. Government sources now say that they will have to return to parliament to modify this impossible law, so expect another almighty row.

There's no escaping any of this. In opposition Labour signed up for both the CSA and divorce reform, though they would have done both better themselves. Whenever these subjects are hotly discussed, everyone comes up with contradictory, but powerful, anecdotes where grave injustice has been done to one partner — it always depends whose side of the story you hear. Every case is unique, one law never fits all.

On the question of fathers' rights, the Government would be well advised to abandon giving automatic rights to all men, and let each case be judged on its merits in the courts.

Sleep of the brain dead

Peter Preston



AS WE sit down in the long, plush room our whole demeanour changes. We become suddenly earnest. We talk about difficult balances and clear responsibilities. We are anxious not to make the abnormal seem normal — nor the normal abnormal. The challenge of the future lies ahead. The need for further research has never been more evident. We are the legions of Self-Regulation.

There are a lot of us about. And very soon, it seems, there will be significantly more — as due DTI consultation periods end and a new British Internet Complaints Committee arises, supreme monitor of the web sites near you. There could be laws, indeed, there are laws of copyright and defamation. But no government these days wants to mire itself in such matters when panels of the great and good can flit fruitfully at the interface.

I served my time on the Press Complaints Commission. (Since there are already well over 50 laws restricting press activities, who on earth wants another 50 for lack of regulatory endeavour? Now — the long, plush room hit — I'm back in that sort of environment for a seminar on the Price of Freedom, as calculated by regulators great and small from advertising, movies, newspapers and broadcasting.

A useful off-the-record occasion — but what's said is less interesting than the way it is said and the assumptions behind it. We all, for instance, believe we are doing valuable work. We are the guardians of our codes and guidelines, and therefore of society. None of us, for a second, supposes that our mission will ever end. The self-perpetuation of self-regulation.

But pause. The world moves on, and we don't. The broadcasting watchdogs, burdened with dusty legislation, belong to a time when there was only BBC television and ITV and politicians were freshly paranoid as the digital future unravels — more channels than magazines on the rack in the newsagents — who wants or needs the nanny provisions of fairness and balance so that every news summary and every political discussion is a set piece constructed according to statute?

More troublingly still — to anyone who has seen and heard the explosion of local radio stations across Europe where is the continuing rationale for the detailed regulation of British local radio? Local voices, local preoccupations need to be different. Our present divide, in practice, leaves the solid stuff of the BBC, and the pop to the commercial stations.

Beep presenters may be permitted regional accents of course, but they're all Corporation people, bound by British rules and Charter instincts. They can't stretch a debate. The content of consensus rules. Sensible, perhaps, as a modus operandi 20 years back. But not at all sensible now. Even Russian local radio is more various, maverick and stimulating than that.

A few days ago — this time squarely on-the-record — we heard again the authentic cry of the British regulator. When summer comes, so does the annual report of the Broadcasting Standards Commission. Enter its revered chair, Lady Elspeth Howe.

LADY Elspeth has a niftier nose for a headline than husband Geoffrey. Clean up your act! she warns the top soaps. "Sensationalism is creeping into storylines which flout audience expectations of both characters and settings."

Beware victim TV, she tells Kilroy, Jerry, Vanessa and Oprah. A society that has long since abandoned the

stocks should think twice about the modern version, designed to titillate and entertain rather than inform. Play fair by your real life cast list, she instructs documentary-makers. "Do they always understand that they are getting into? Have they given truly informed consent?" And yes, there will be "further research".

Newspapers, who like to roast the broadcasters a little, give this stuff full weight. The commission gets an annual £2 million from Chris Smith's budget. It helded 2,394 complaints about taste, bad language, sex and violence last year, taking an average of 80 working days to deal with them. Some of those complaints were multiple — such as the 76 about the British National Party's election broadcast. But many were purely individual. Anybody who sees something which offends them can write or call within two months to set Elspeth's Eagles flying.

If newspapers had a similar taste squad inflicted upon them, there would be instant mayhem. How can 13 commissioners (including two vicars, one barrister, one solicitor, one college principal, and one retired civil servant) pretend to represent the British taste in television? They aren't representative of anything. They need, of course, constant research to guide them — research which also, happily enough, substantiates the need for their existence.

Yet such questions aren't asked in the press and television can't or won't put them for itself. The show rolls seamlessly on. The lectures on what may or may not be shown, and when, flow without pause. Magisterial lips curl at the sight of Oprah Winfrey. Frowns follow the oddballs of Brookside to their grave.

It is, coolly considered, a



Trouble on the Net?
Something to be done? Call for a vicar and a solicitor

slightly ridiculous enterprise. Round the course in 80 days. One digital day soon it may even shrivel for lack of business. (Complaints about satellite and cable are tiny because viewers don't feel about something they've "elected, and paid" to receive).

But the genuinely good, genuinely concerned ladies and gentlemen who sit around the table in The Sanctuary, SW1, will be the last to notice. Regulators never say their role has died. Regulators believe the role is an eternal flame. And politicians, of course, agree.

Why act yourself when others — for £25,000 or so — will do your work? Why encourage broadcasting, as it proliferates, to grow more like a free press? Broadcasters have to give you your interview straight on the fairness and balance criteria — and can be jolly well Elspethed if they don't.

Trouble on the Net? Something to be done? Call for a vicar and a solicitor and a code. Sit back and smile, problem solved for eternity. Twenty years on, some her 19th paragraph (four-letter words not acceptable on home pages, warns Lady P) and we'll all sleep safer in beds. Even if it is the sleep of the brain dead.

Endpiece: with the zealots

Roy Hattersley



IN MANY ways, it was more like a revivalist meeting than a constitutional consultation. As you would expect, the affirmations of faith were made in restrained language. But the suppressed emotion was bubbling away beneath the surface. Lord Jenkins of Hillhead, the leading evangelist, has not much in common with an Old Testament prophet. But he does point a neat messianic finger. Last Wednesday — when the Independent Commission on Voting Systems met the Lon-

don public — he signified his choice of speaker by thrusting out his left arm with such sudden violence that I expected a bolt of lightning to flash across the room.

Jenkins began the proceedings by reminding the audience of the commission's terms of reference. Its task is to decide an alternative voting system — not to adjudicate between what is now and what might be in the future. Even if he were so minded — which he certainly is not — he could not produce a report which recommended keeping the first-past-the-post system. So it was not clear why, half way through the evening, he asked if there were any speakers in favour of the status quo, which he is neither inclined nor entitled to support. But it was a night for enthusiasm not logic.

One devotee of change proposed that each constituency should be represented by two MPs — the candidate who topped the poll and one of the "best losers". The best losers

— defined by votes received — might not be runners up. So he suggested that names might be drawn from a hat to decide which constituency they should "represent". A retired civil servant had a better idea: Members of Parliament should have weighted votes which corresponded to the support they received at the polls. Thus in 1964 (when I entered the House of Commons) I would have been worth 16,287. By 1987 (when I left my value would have risen to 22,116. In case his scheme seemed to lack ingenuity, he recommended that, instead of holding occasional general elections, one seat should be contested each week in a five year cycle.

Over the years, I have grown less antagonistic towards what — in an attempt to end the argument before it begins — enthusiasts for change call "electoral reform". But I am still immensely irritated by the over-blown claims that are made about its benefits. Last Wednesday, a Mr Thorn-

bridge asserted that, had Britain adopted proportional representation when John Stuart Mill proposed it 150 years ago, "much of Britain's late, catastrophic decline would have been averted". He was also sure that "we must start from where we are now and make sure that the best is not the enemy of the good". He did not say if a change in the voting system would reduce the incidence of clichés at public meetings.

I do not suggest that the whole evening was taken up with pompous nonsense. Though whenever I hear someone talk of "inadequacy" I reach for my thesaurus — not to find alternatives to that pretentious word but so that I have something heavy to throw at whoever used it. And too many of the "contributions" were preceded by self-conscious introductions. "Member of Charter 88 but speaking in a personal capacity" and "associated with many related organisations". However much sense was talked about the need to

provide proper representation for women and for minorities. One of the reasons I have softened my attitude towards FR is the prospect it provides of a party which speaks for the poor.

But the real enthusiasts — the people who have been battling for FR over the years — assumed a more dubious argument. They claimed, time after time, that electoral reform would both avoid violent swings in policy ("nationalisation one year and privatisation the next") as one speaker described it) and produce a government that more closely represented the views of the people. Those objectives can only be achieved simultaneously if voters never change their minds. There was a time when nationalisation was popular. Then privatisation was in vogue. The violent swing is called democracy. An immobile pendulum gives the great and the good of the middle ground power to do what they believe is best.

Not that last Wednesday's meeting was an establishment reunion. Certainly all the usual suspects were there. When the first speaker talked to give his name, Lord Jenkins told him "I know perfectly well who you are" in such menacing tones that I expected him to add "And I know where you live". But the most lucid exposition of the reformers' case came from a man with a scrubby beard who spoke on behalf of the Socialist Labour Party.

He was not wholly representative of the gathering. More typical was Kate O'Rourke from the Make Your Vote Count organisation who promised to campaign for whatever the commission recommended. She answered the question which I had given to the meeting to pursue. Why did 60 people crowd into a stuffy room to make points which, assuming that they have a modicum of common sense, they must have known would change nothing? They were there to hear witness. Al-Jalal! The Second Preference is at hand.

مكتبة الامير

The Guardian
Monday July 6 1998
Edition Number 47221
119 Farringdon Road, London EC1R 3ER
Tel No: 0171-278 2332
Fax No: 0171-837 4530
E-mail: letters@guardian.co.uk
Website: http://www.guardian.co.uk

'When I created Bash Street in 1953, I was an admirer of the Goons'
Leo Baxendale, Letters

The siege of Drumcree

Ulster must make its peace

THE scenes at Drumcree yesterday were hard to believe: a direct contradiction of everything that had seemed to go before them. Just last week the leaders of Northern Ireland had sat down together — for the first time in a generation — to form a democratic assembly of their own. A week earlier Ulster's people had voted in overwhelming numbers for politicians bent on peace and co-operation. A month before that they had delivered an equally hefty mandate for the Good Friday agreement, a plan to let the two communities live side by side. From April to May to June, Northern Ireland had seemed to be putting its bloody past behind it, and looking toward a new future.

July has begun differently, with a return to the tensions and hatreds of old. Officially, the nationalists and unionists may have found a new accommodation — but it didn't look that way in Portadown yesterday. Instead it was a return to battle stations, with a thousand Orangemen digging in for a

stand-off that could last a year — refusing to leave until they are allowed to march their traditional route from Drumcree parish church down the mainly nationalist Garvaghy Road. The barbed wire was back, along with barricades of steel and concrete. Police and troops are in flame-proof riot gear, army engineers have dug a giant trench, while armoured Army Saracens look on. The scene is set for the siege of Drumcree. If the Orangemen stay true to their word, it could yet become a Unionist Greenham Common.

So who's in the right? Mo Mowlam was asked a version of that question yesterday, and wisely dodged it. For there is no easy right and wrong at Drumcree. On the contrary, what makes it so painful is that the clash there is between right and right: it is two just causes that have collided on the Garvaghy Road.

Progressives may find the Orange Order a difficult organisation to warm to, but when the men in sashes demand their right to march, they are asserting a liberty which is as fundamental as they come. Freedom of assembly is a basic human right, no matter who wants to exercise it. Just because the marchers in this case are awkward, bloody-minded and politically unappealing does not reduce that right by one jot. We may wish they would just forget their precious

march, and let the constructive work of peace-making continue. It would certainly be more convenient. But when Orangemen say a defining part of their cultural heritage is being denied, and a basic human right blocked, all those who care about civil liberties should listen. Nor should democrats dismiss the Orangemen's rejection of the Parades Commission, which barred them from walking the Garvaghy Road. The commission is an unelected quango, and those on the liberal-left who used to condemn government-by-quango when it hurt their interests in the past should at least show some sympathy for unionists facing the same plight now.

So why don't the nationalist residents of Garvaghy Road just hold their nose, and let the Orangemen pass through for their 15-minute parade and be done with it? Because the nationalist case *against* the march is just as strong. Garvaghy Road is their home, not a stage for a triumphalist, sectarian show of force — which is how they view the annual Drumcree ritual. They have agreed to abide by the Parades Commission when it rules against them; all they ask now is that the Orangemen do the same. When two just causes clash, as they have here, the only answer is for sacrifice on both sides. Both communities need to realise they will never achieve their entire dream — but that

compromise is better than permanent conflict. Plenty of observers thought that moment had been reached on May 22, when Northern Ireland voted for peace. But the battle of wills now underway at Drumcree suggests that kind of accord — an agreement of the heart — is still a long way off.

powerful upper house would be contested. The problems of the Australian right are huge. Their "natural" vote is split between the major conservative party, the Liberals, its junior partner, the National Party, and One Nation. Politicians in all the major parties, including Labour, are genuinely uncertain of what elections might bring. They will almost certainly bring a Labour victory, but some speculate that the polls will witness the complete destruction of the National Party in what was once its Queensland stronghold, but that as many as three party leaders could lose their seats — the National Party leader, the Labour Party leader, and even the prime minister.

One nation's nightmare future of Asian cities waxing ever larger on the coast while "real" Australians survive only in the hush, is a fantasy. But it touches the insecurities of those parts of Australian society that feel perplexed and outflanked by change. The mainstream Australian parties have in recent years all been shifting their positions to some degree on immigration, aboriginal issues. But these responses have not assuaged an angry portion of the electorate which is drawn to Pauline Hanson's simplifications. Whoever next takes office will have to try to satisfy a less deferential citizenry and one in which a substantial minority will be more openly prejudiced.

Letters to the Editor

Fay's way with early feminism

NANCY Banks Smith (July 3) had more fun than she expected watching Fay Weldon's Big Women.

But what was most ridiculous about it was that it was so bizarrely off-beam. Early Women's Liberationists are easy to satirise: the way we sat in gloomy basements waiting in vain for needy writers to drop by; the strange tolerance for interruption, complaint, craziness from other women; the earnestness of our attempts to stifle envy, egotism and exhibitionism; the energy we put into collective undertakings of whatever kind; the oddity of male friends and lovers minding our kids, even after we kicked them out of our beds or homes; the exhilaration of singing, marching and dancing — not in our shared and messy homes — but in the street or conference hall; the exclusions which such passionate bonding breeds. Not one chord was struck by Fay Weldon's feeble fantasy. Did she really miss it all?

Lynne Segal, London.

ET me get this straight: In order to take them out of the ghetto, homosexuals are to have their own separate drama series on Channel 4 (Report July 3).

Paul Thompson, Scone, Perth.

ELLIOTT Bignell's letter (July 3) on gender in language ignored the peculiar problem facing speakers of a language in which every noun has a gender, always expressed in the definite or indefinite article. It is all very well to say that the same terminology should be applied to a worker regardless of gender, but in French the fact that many prestigious occupations have no accepted feminine form leads to women having to describe themselves using masculine nouns (eg, a female teacher remains *le professeur*). Only the less prestigious professions have feminine forms, so a businessman's personal secretary may be *la secrétaire*, where a politician must remain *le secrétaire d'Etat*.

The need for this state of affairs to be rectified in modern speech is surely evident. Alexander Jacoby, Newcastle upon Tyne.

Catholics' test of faith

ALA Winkley of the Catholic Women's Network (CWN) turns on liberal Catholics (July 2) has a distinctly pre-Vatican II understanding of Catholicism which is bound to bring a clash with today's Church and a Pope who has emphasised his worldwide role. Being a Catholic does not mean being born into a private club. The Church is a divinely-founded institution, open to all who accept its unchanging message. Simply being born into a Catholic family does not mean that whatever views you want to hold are thereby Catholic.

The successor of St Peter is perfectly entitled, according to Catholic doctrine, to assert his office and "confirm his brethren" by ensuring that the Catholic faith is taught in all its fullness and integrity. When I saw the Pope recently in Rome he delivered an excellent address and showed no sign of mental decay. His commitment to his task shows courage and faithfulness — qualities deserving of admiration and gratitude, not carping criticism.

Joanna Bogie, New Malden, Surrey.

AS chairman of the annual Faith of our Fathers conference I welcome the Pope's latest letter defending the integrity of the Catholic faith against theological dissent. His clarion call is necessary to

ensure that all who hold and teach the faith do so boldly and unambiguously — preserving and passing it on intact.

Our conference has expressed the desire that anyone who is known to dissent from Church teaching on faith and morals be removed from sensitive positions and Church administration, Catholic education and from any advisory or counselling situation involving Catholics. Perhaps we are now a step nearer to seeing the achievement of that aim.

Michael Akerman, Enfield, Middlesex.

THE reports of the Pope's letter, and reaction to it, overstate the nature of the actual document. The letter recalls a "profession of faith" for those in public office in the Catholic Church, which has been in use since 1985. The profession referred to three categories of theological truths revealed by God in the Bible and in the Church's teaching tradition; beliefs which are consequences of these truths; and other matters taught by the Pope and the Bishops. The Pope's letter traces these concepts into the Church's law which predates the profession by six years. In terms of Catholic belief and doctrine, the letter contains nothing new.

Tom Horwood, Catholic Media Office, London.

PRESUMABLY Daphne MacLeod (Letters, July 3) is in constant contact with the thousands of Catholics in the country so that she can state with confidence that "the vast majority" will have welcomed the latest papal pronouncements. My impression was that every survey carried out showed an overwhelming majority of Catholics in favour of women priests, for example. Bernard Tucker, Old Alresford, Hants.

YOUR correspondent (July 4) praises the Protestants of Alsace for sharing their churches with Catholic worshippers. This also happens in Milton Keynes where the City Church of Christ the Cornerstone and local Christian centres are shared by several denominations.

Carol Richards, Milton Keynes.



From Bash Street to Barny Army

RE Separated at birth: Ronald and Goofy (Sport, July 3): there's more to it than that. I had an e-mail from a fan via my website, pointing out his mates' comments on the likeness between Ronald and Pong from The Bash Street Kids.

When I created Bash Street in 1953, I was an admirer of The Goons. In creating Pong, I had in mind to make a child version of Eccles. The Goons were on radio, so their creations had no visual existence, but I reckoned that Spike Milligan had based Eccles voice on that of Goofy.

So I made Pong gangly and goofy, with sticky out teeth and ears on stalks (and smirking complacency in his own radiant beauty). Ronald doesn't just have the teeth —

look at his ears, and the hairless head.

I don't know anything about Pong's skills at footie — though he should be good at nodding in high centres.

The Barny Army is the other comics/bookie community for some years sports commentators have used "Barny Army" for English fans. I created The Barny Army (a medieval army of incompetent mercenaries) as part of my creation of WHAM! for Outhams in 1964. At what point, in later years, did the phrase come to describe the English fans? Did it originate from the sports media, from fanzines — or from fans themselves? Can anyone pinpoint the moment of transition? Leo Baxendale, Stroud, Glos.

Banking on Asian crisis could cost us hard-earned friends

ALEX Brummer (Banking and Disaster, July 1) recycles the Western financial commentators' banal view of Asia as in quasi-terminal crisis, yet does not consider either the contribution which Asian investment has made to current UK and European economic prosperity, or the wider political context of the present financial market upheavals in the post-cold war process of reordering global patterns of political and economic power.

It is clear that the 1997-98 financial crisis in Pacific Asia has been the subject of sharp political debate. At one extreme advocates of the US-style liberal market system have blamed the political and business elites of the region whom they have accused of organising a "crony capitalism". In reply, advocates of the particularity of the development experience of Asia have spoken of a Western conspiracy to undermine Asia's success. A less fevered discussion of the developmental dynamic of the region suggests that the crisis is likely to be transient within a pattern of success that has endured for 50 years. The feeble analyses of these commentators are missing the point. What is at issue is the economic and political architecture which will govern the post-cold war tri-regional global system.

It would seem sensible for UK and EU governments,

whose economies have received significant Asian inward investment, to remain firm in their long-term commitment to the region because when this crisis has passed Asia will remember its friends. Dr Peter W Preston, Pacific Asia Research Centre, University of Birmingham.

AS your writers say (Boom and doom mark end of Labour's economic honeymoon, July 4), the Bank of England's big worry is earnings. When it put up interest rates last month, average earnings were rising at an annual rate of 4.9 per cent and this month reached 5.2 per cent, well above the inflation target of 2 per cent, so they'll probably put interest rates up again, and possibly tip the economy into recession.

But earnings in finance rose by 10.3 per cent, in manufacturing 5.3 per cent and in the entire public sector by 2.6 per cent. Earnings of the following directors of the Bank of England rose as follows: Graham Hawker, 67 per cent; Sir David Lees, 40 per cent; and Sir Neville Sims, 28 per cent. Britain is still divided into two classes. Occasionally their interests converge, but they need different parties and different theories of economics. Dr Julian Tudor Hart, President, Socialist Health Association, Swansea.

GMTV replies

GIOVANNI Ulleri's decision to include GMTV in his range of targets under the heading A Sleazy Affair is wholly unwarranted. Mr Ulleri attacks GMTV for broadcasting, as then, unseen footage of Louise Woodward showing him walking hand in hand with Louise Woodward. The clear implication of the broadcast, claimed Mr Ulleri, was that he was "Louise's new boyfriend", and even worse. GMTV offered him no aid or assistance in reply to this "sleazy" attack on his professional integrity. In fact, GMTV pointed out that the relationship was one of friendship. Gerard Melling, Editor, GMTV, London.

Mob pressure

THERE was no general strike planned (Guyanese call march of defiance, June 29). In fact the Public Service Union which had threatened industrial action, decided to engage in negotiations with the Government.

Regarding the allegations of fraudulent elections by the Leader of the Opposition of Guyana, all of the observer groups which monitored the general elections last December were positive in their comments.

The government and people of Guyana remain concerned, therefore, over the action of the opposition to intimidate a democratically elected government. They have denounced the mobs, bomb

scars, firebombing and assaults on innocent citizens unleashed in Central Georgetown over the past week and adopted by the main opposition party. Hospitals, homes for the aged, schools including kindergartens, have not been exempt from these acts.

If the opposition has any grievances, these should be channelled through the appropriate channels. The government has already conceded to have the next general elections two years earlier than required. The government has also called for dialogue between the main parties to resolve the country's domestic problems around the negotiating table rather than in open violence in the streets.

1998. We are subject to intense surveillance and detailed measurement of our

Kate's job

IT IS a strange plea for sister. I heard that Kate with such a vicious attack on other women. What on earth have "feminist academics" done to Linda Grant (June 30)? Have they not supplied her with lots of free information for her columns?

I simply do not recognise her portrait of academic feminism in any of the work carried out in my department. There are projects on health, poverty, the impact of long hours and flexible work hours on women, to name but a few. It is not possible to be a "jobs-worth" academic (feminist or otherwise) in Britain in the 1990s. We are subject to intense surveillance and detailed measurement of our

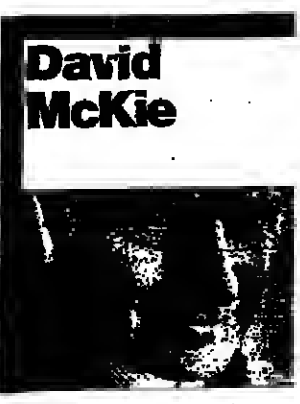
productivity. Research grants and publications are assessed every four years and a minimum of four major publications must be submitted.

If she really wants to understand why Kate Millett has not been offered a job in a British university she needs only to investigate this. With only one publication (however major) in the last 20 years, Kate Millett would not even get to the interview stage in today's academic job market. I am truly sorry that Kate has not had the recognition that she deserves, but blaming other feminists is not the answer.

Dr Rosalind Gill, Gender Institute, London School of Economics.

Please include a full postal address. We may edit letters. The Country Diary is on Page 11.

Anorakistan man



DAVID McKie

I'M AFRAID William Hague has had it. Something happened on Saturday, worse than the baseball cap, worse than the Nottingham Hill Carnival, worse even than the absence through sinusitis, which I fear must finally rule him out as a potential prime minister. It may have been suspected already. I have seen it reported before that when only 14 Hague was having

Hansard delivered; also that he carried in that capacious head the names of all MPs, their constituencies and their majorities.

But what had not to my knowledge surfaced till Colin Hughes's profile of Hague appeared in Saturday's Guardian is that over the years he carefully logged the results of every game of Whod! which he played with his Auntie May. Just imagine what will happen when that gets into the focus groups, as those clever young people in Millbank will surely see that it does. "Can't have him," they will testify in one great unanimous shout. "He's an anorak."

There was a time when an anorak meant only what old dictionaries say, as the OED puts it: a weatherproof jacket of skin or cloth, with hood attached, worn by a Greenland eskimo, or a similar garment worn in a country other than Greenland.

If you look back through the Guardian of 10 years ago,

that's the sense in which it is used; and even then, quite often in terms of disparagement. You can pay a heavy price for wearing an anorak. The fall in the reputation of Robin Cook may be directly attributable less to the fact that he left his wife than to his choice of a green anorak for his remarriage. In May a man called Armand Watts was told he could not continue as mayor of Chesham because he wore an anorak in the council chamber.

And last week the co-editor of Rail Express, Murray Brown, blamed the decline of train-spotting not on the boring diesel which infest our railways now, but on the media's constant linking of train-spotting with anoraks. "It's honestly not true," he protested. "Fishermen wear anoraks, not train-spotters."

I fear he has failed to spot something profoundly important. The term anorak nowadays often has little to do with the wearing of jackets of skin

or cloth. When, why and how is unclear, but at some stage over the past decade anoraks began to define not an item bought at Millers but a whole way of life — the life of the true obsessive. Anoraks in this sense do not necessarily wear anoraks. You don't need to put on an anorak, even in Weth upon Dearne, to play Whod! with your Auntie May.

AN ANORAK now means someone who pursues an obsessive interest, usually involving statistics. That goes for train-spotters, certainly, but it also goes for birdwatchers, film buffs, psephologists, and the sort of football enthusiast who can tell you the Transwore Rover line-up in their match against Bradford Park Avenue in March 1928, plus the names of the referee and the linesmen. Why do we sneer at them so? Why do we seem to assume that they're in the grip of some form of illness: *anorakia nervosa* per-

haps? Unlike football hooligans, say, or the sort of young men who drive cars with defective exhausts at 65 miles an hour down the middle of village streets on a Sunday morning, exuding a bass beat so vicious that cottages tremble, anoraks do no harm. In a curious way, I suspect, we are envious. We envy their phenomenal memories, even if, given such memories, we might put them to other uses. We envy them, even more, their sense of fulfilment. A sort of dreamy content floods over them as they let their obsessions rip.

William Hazlitt knew all about that. "The power of attaching an interest to the most trifling or painful pursuits, in which our whole attention and faculties are engaged, is one of the greatest happinesses in nature," he wrote.

So it's good to see in the Guardian letters column these last few days that Anoraks are fighting back. They

ought to go further. There ought to be an annual march proclaiming Anorak Pride and Anorak Power. It would help them assume their appropriate place in the long sad tradition of persecuted minorities, such as the Armenians, the Azerbaijanis or the Abkhazians.

Perhaps we should create them a homeland, their own Anorakistan, in some empty tract of the country like Thorne Waste on the borders of Yorkshire and Lincolnshire, where the train-spotters among them could log the Regional Railways trains as they make the flat and mournful journey from Doncaster to Grimsby.

Better still, we could honour their place in our national life by offering them a permanent place in the Millennium Dome. I doubt if Blair would agree to it. But if by some miracle Auntie May's nephew had swept into power by then, there's always a chance that he might.

CALL UNCLE SAM FOR ONLY 9p - ANYTIME!

10% Discount on a pre-payment of £100

Australia	20p	N. Zealand	30p
Germany	16p	Pakistan	80p
Hong Kong	30p	S. Africa	38p
India	55p	Thailand	72p
Ireland	12p	UK	6p
Japan	20p	USA	9p

Celebrate your Independence from BT with Swiftcall's surprisingly new low prices.

FreeCall 0800 769 0800

KDD Business Information 0800 769 2222

Now You're Talking!

SWIFTCALL

*These off peak prices are available 7 days a week, midnight - 10am. All prices include VAT and are correct as of 04.07.98

Executive Financial Editor: Ben Clissitt
Financial Editor: Alex Brummer
Telephone: 0171-239-9610
Fax: 0171-833-4456

FinanceGuardian

Business begs Bank not to raise interest rates as gloom spreads from manufacturing to services

Industry in fear of recession

Dan Atkinson
and David Gow

BRITAIN'S business leaders yesterday piled pressure on the Bank of England not to raise interest rates this week by painting a grim picture of the economy sliding into recession, and confidence at its lowest since the slump of the early 1990s.

The director-general of the Institute of Directors, Tim Melville-Ross, pointed to "increasingly depressed" boardrooms and falling exports and jobs prospects, and urged the Bank's monetary policy committee (MPC) not to raise interest rates again when it meets on Wednesday.

"Interest rates are, frankly, already too high. To raise them yet again would be perverse in the extreme," he said on GMTV.

A Lloyds Bank survey concluded that the drop in confi-

dence created "an added dilemma" for the Bank governor, Eddie George, and the other eight MPC members.

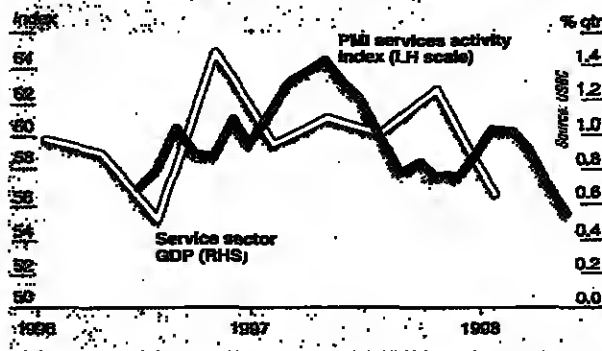
Pointing to a weaker consumer sector, it said: "The economic slowdown is gathering momentum and has filtered into the service sector."

A similar message is being sent to the Bank from the Engineering Employers' Federation, which on Wednesday will warn of 100,000 job cuts in the next 18 months, a fall in domestic orders for the first time since the economy picked up in 1993 and a drop in investment plans.

The British Chambers of Commerce next week will show the gloom spreading from manufacturing to services. But some City economists still expect the MPC to push rates up a further quarter-point to 7.75 per cent. They argue that rising earnings and continued growth in consumer spending point to a fresh increase.

Lloyds Bank showed that 20

Services growth moderating



per cent of those surveyed cut prices during the past six months, while only 19 per cent increased them. "Consequently, just 3 per cent reported increased profits, the lowest level since the recession."

On exports, 36 per cent said orders had dropped, with 32 per cent reporting they had in-

creased. Order books generally grew at a slower rate than during the previous six months; 18 per cent reported increased orders, against 29 per cent in the last half of 1997.

The survey showed that, in one year, business confidence has slid from its highest since the slump of the early 1990s to its lowest.

British manufacturing has been in the doldrums for some months, as today's industrial figures will show, but the gloom has spread to services, which account for two-thirds of output. The graph, based on last week's Purchasing Managers' Institute report, shows the services activity index falling to a record low of 0.6, and quarterly growth at 0.5 per cent. That is below trend, but is it enough to prevent the Bank of England, worried by the sector's pay increase of 6 per cent, raising rates again this week?

This chimed with Mr Melville-Ross's comment that "the degree of the fall in optimism about the state of the economy generally is quite marked".

He said: "The South-east Asian crisis is a problem even if you are just a domestic operator, because there is the prospect of greater competition from companies in South-east

Asia with price advantage."

Mr Melville-Ross said consumer pessimism was leading to financial caution — with potential dangers for the rest of the economy. "There is a concern that people are less likely to spend and that will in turn have consequences for jobs," he said.

Lloyds said of its survey, which covered 2,000 companies with sales ranging from £1 million to £100 million: "Over the past six months all sectors of the economy suffered a slowdown in order-book growth, led by manufacturing. Retailing was particularly hard hit by lower sales, pointing to a weaker consumer sector."

Michael Riding, Lloyds Bank's commercial-banking chief, said: "Every sector is now suffering a decline in growth and this, coupled with intense domestic and foreign competition, means more companies are being forced to cut prices, leading to an acute profits squeeze."

Economics Notebook

How to get over a state mugging



Victor Keegan

WHO on earth can we entrust our pensions to? For most people this is by far the most important decision of their lives. Yet young people ignore it because it seems irrelevant, and older people do not start complaining until it is too late.

Governments certainly cannot be trusted. Labour has so far endorsed Margaret Thatcher's unforgivable decision to link increases in the state pension to prices rather than earnings — which always increases faster.

This permanently freezes the after-inflation value of the pension. The Bortle Commission warned that by 2020, the value of the basic pension would fall to 9 per cent of average earnings, compared with 21 per cent when Labour left office in 1979.

Nobody can live on that, so it is a question of relying on diminishing state hand-outs or of organising your own pension, with your company or as a personal plan.

To meet a supposed but never proved pensions funding crisis the Conservatives encouraged people to take out personal pensions, even if it meant opting out of much better company schemes.

It was the signal for an army of spivs to descend on hundreds of thousands of gullible people and sell them pensions they did not need, causing serious financial problems that are still to be cleared up.

Last week, years later, the mighty Prudential, after initially denying that it had done anything wrong, finally admitted the cost of compensating customers had tripled to £1.1 billion.

It would be comforting to think that the admirable new regulations have solved the problem of ordinary folk being hoodwinked over pensions — but have they?

Only last week, a friend showed me a personal pension document from one of our biggest banks that his young, low-earning son was about to sign.

Unlike pre-scandal documents, it outlined management charges and other costs, so nobody could subsequently claim the dangers were not set out.

years. But for someone on less than the proposed minimum wage to see the first £800 snatched from a pension plan, he should not have joined in the first place would be more like daylight robbery than savings.

He would have been better off in a regular savings scheme. The policy was being sold by an adviser who only dealt with the bank's products. But even with that limitation, there should have been a legal requirement that the salesperson spell out all the up-front charges and that the customer sell a policy clearly wrong for the customer's circumstances.

Is there a way out of this jungle? There is — and there are rumours that it may actually happen.

What most people need is a single "stateholding" pension that fulfils certain conditions. First, it must be compulsory up to a certain level of payments — embracing present compulsory insurance payments, which are no longer used to pay pensions with any further top-ups augmented by tax relief.

Second, it must be simple, so everyone can understand it. There could be a standard pension, invested 50 per cent in safe government stocks and 50 per cent in an equities fund which tracks the FT index to minimise management charges. Shares have given an average 10 per cent return for decades.

THE weight of new money going into the equity funds ought to make continued capital growth self-filling — or at least for the period before the fund starts paying out.

Third, they must be portable, so people can take them with them when they change jobs or become self-employed.

Fourth, and in many ways most important, members must have provision to draw some of the capital for a small number of defined, long-term purposes, like a deposit for a house.

At a stroke, this would remove the main reason for pensions being so unattractive to young people — which is the fact that there will be no benefit from it for what seems like an eternity.

If it were possible to draw some of it for your first house or to guarantee a loan for a deposit, buying into the pension would become much more attractive.

According to reports in the Financial Times, ministers are at last starting to think along these lines.

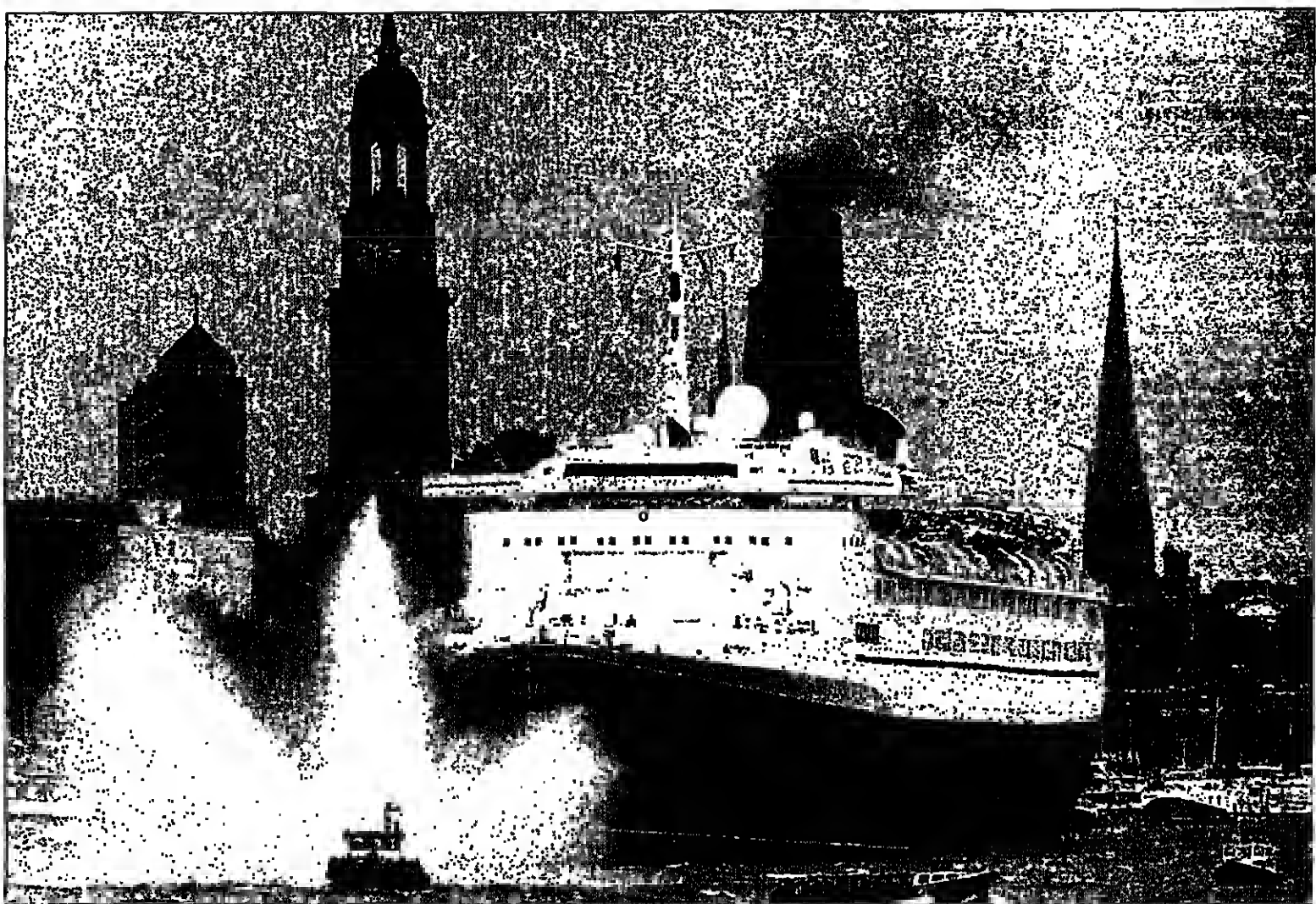
Perhaps the Government should hold a competition to find the best "model" pension that maximises benefits while reducing costs.

It could then be licensed for marketing to banks, friendly societies and others.

In theory, there is no reason why the Government should not introduce its own "model" pension scheme, on the grounds that its product ought to be competitive because it does not have to make a profit on it.

But in practice, the Government has proved almost as big a pensioner-mugger as the private sector. They have merely done it in a more subtle way.

Cruising on a Sunday afternoon



New York bound... After a one-day stopover in northern Germany the Queen Elizabeth 2 departs yesterday from the port of Hamburg for its Atlantic crossing. The cruise ship, owned by Cunard, carries up to 1,800 passengers and 1,000 crew

Race for Polish steel

David Gow
Industrial Editor

CASH-rich British Steel is bidding for one of Poland's two biggest steel mills, which is being privatised under a plan to ease the country's path to joining the European Union.

Thwarted by the Far East economic crisis from buying a Korean steel business, Sir Brian Moffat, British Steel's chairman, recently held talks in Warsaw with Ewa Wasacz, Poland's minister responsible for privatisation.

Sir Brian, UK industry sources said yesterday, plans to bid for Huta Katowice which, under the Polish government's restructuring plan, is being modernised with approval granted for a new strip mill and thin-slab caster to make steel for cars and consumer goods.

British Steel, sitting on a cash-pile of about £450 million, is keen to expand abroad to offset the continuing strength of sterling, which depressed last year's earnings by £500 million and drove profits down to £351 million.

But it faces tough competition in Poland where Mr Wasacz, a former steel executive, plans to revive the overall industry by 2001 with the loss of 40,000 jobs in the 90,000-strong workforce — and keep overall capacity at 13.4 million tonnes a year, in the face of EU pressure for cuts. EU excess capacity alone is about 20 million tonnes.

Mr Wasacz wants to sell both Huta Katowice and a larger plant, Huta Sendzimir in Krakow, which together account for 60 per cent of Polish capacity, to a single bidder. He has attracted interest from a consortium of Germany's Thyssen Krupp and UK-based Ispat International, and another of Austria's Voest Alpine and Holland's Hoogovens.

But the Polish business has set an independent course, inviting bids from both British Steel and the Anglo-Dutch combine.

The Polish government's plans for early EU entry are being hampered by a dispute with Brussels over steel import tariffs. Last week it cut these from 6 to 4 per cent and promised to reduce them to 3 per cent from next January.

Brussels set to clip BA's wings

Approval of alliance depends on cut in transatlantic flights

Julie Wolf in Brussels

THE European Commission will demand this week that British Airways and American Airlines cut the number of flights on some transatlantic routes by up to 65 per cent to secure EU backing for their long-delayed alliance.

The commission is also expected in its preliminary ruling to require that the airlines give up 287 take-off and

landing slots at Heathrow and Gatwick airports, with between 210 and 220 coming from BA's Heathrow.

The terms, while considerably less stringent than the 350 slots initially targeted by competition commissioner Karel Van Miert, will bring a furious response from the two airlines. BA and AA will press for a phasing-in of the slot reductions.

The commission is due to issue the ruling at its weekly meeting on Wednesday after

its outlines were agreed by senior EU officials last week.

Under that accord, the airlines will be asked to reduce the number of their combined flights as well as give up slots on the London to Chicago, London to Dallas and London to Miami "hub" routes.

BA and American will have to cut the number of flights on those routes by 55 per cent if several new entrants appear on the scene, and by 60 per cent if there is only one new competitor. The reductions will apply for a period of only six months.

The two airlines are also expected to be asked to cede slots to open up competition

between London and Boston, New York, Los Angeles, Seattle, Charlotte and Philadelphia. Although the airlines will fight to weaken the conditions before the commission issues its final ruling later this year, EU and industry officials believe that the alliance will now go ahead, probably in time for the 1999 summer season.

The commission's verdict is the first step toward approval, but the airlines still need immunity against anti-competition claims in the US, which is contingent on the conclusion of an "open skies" agreement between Washington and London.

Margaret Beckett, the Trade and Industry Secretary, will come under pressure to seek a relaxation in the EC's terms, but EU officials believe the British Government is close to the line taken by the commission.

The commission will also issue its opinion on a separate link-up already in operation between Lufthansa, SAS and United Airlines.

Brussels is expected to demand that the airlines code about 100 slots at Frankfurt airport and cut flight frequencies by up to 55 per cent on their Frankfurt to Chicago and Frankfurt to Washington routes.

BBC begins fightback

Chris Barrie, Media
Business Correspondent

THE BBC is to launch an offensive against its political and commercial critics with a campaign designed to show its crucial role in protecting Britain's creative industries from overseas competition.

The campaign will emphasise the importance of the BBC's name and services in promoting British interests and values.

It will also point out that many American media conglomerates are far bigger and wield much greater financial power than the BBC or other British media groups.

Implicit in the campaign will be an attempt to hit back at BBC critics such as media magnate Rupert Murdoch, who in April attacked the BBC for holding an "unhealthy concentration" of power and resisting diversity in broadcasting.

The BBC will demonstrate that it is only 18th among world's media players — far behind Time Warner, Disney, Bertelsmann and others. It will argue that the threat to independent production companies comes from these larger overseas rivals.

Patricia Hodgson, BBC director of policy and planning, said broadcasting was on the threshold of an era "quite frightening for the UK".

She added: "If we get this wrong, the implications for our creative industries will be enormous."

Britain's film, music, television and literary companies could be "blown to smithereens" by US-based multimedia groups which can develop products with greater economies of scale and sell to the British market at rock-bottom prices.

The BBC, she said, was "just about in the world league" if its commercial and World Service activities were included.

It had to remain a world-class player if it was to nurture British talent and provide it with access to overseas markets.

Contract rights expanded

Dan Atkinson

AFOOTNOTE in the Government's Fairness at Work proposals could leave companies open to millions of pounds in damages claims made by people who are not employed by them.

Cleaners, maintenance workers and others traditionally employed by external contractors may be able to sue not only the contracting firms, in cases such as unfair dismissal, but also the company using the contractor's services.

Osborne Clarke, a firm of solicitors advising some of Britain's biggest compa-

nies, warns today that a footnote to the white paper extends the definition of "employee" to include "all those who work for someone else, regardless of whether or not they are strictly employed under a contract of employment."

The clause may become the focus of ferocious lobbying as the white paper goes out for consultation, with small business groups fighting to remove what could be an unlimited legal liability for companies.

Osborne Clarke said cleaners, caterers, computer specialists and accountants could find they have legal recourse to companies which use their ser-

vices. Nick Moore, head of the firm's employment department, said: "The implications of the footnote are extremely concerning."

"It could radically transform the whole basis of British employment protective legislation."

"Once they [the proposals] are in force, a single botched dismissal could easily bring a company to its knees."

Osborne Clarke said the white paper could make life more difficult for employers because employers' claims to let them go before they are liable for all sorts of claims they will be entitled to under these new laws.

Tomkins turns gun slinger

This week

Ian King

TOMKINS, headed by Greg Hutchings, is probably about the last company left in Britain — and certainly the FTSE 100 — proud to call itself a conglomerate.

That could change today when, announcing its full-year results with profits of around £200 million, Tomkins may hoist the "for sale" sign over gun-maker Smith & Wesson. Share buy-backs may also be on the cards, since generating excess cash is unlikely to have been a problem for the company.

The same day sees full-year results from Matthew Clark, which owns Gaymores and Teuton Cider, and winner Stowells of Chelsea.

Following the disappointing results last week from rivals Merrydown and HP Bulmer, a sharp fall in profits seems likely, with broker Merrill

Lynch — which forecasts a headline figure of £22.5 million — the most bullish.

Tomorrow is another significant day in the retail sector with Harveys, the home-furnishings group chaired by Sir Harry Solomon, expected to announce full-year profits in the order of £16 million — twice last year's figure.

Figures will also be published from John Menzies, the news distributor which recently sold its high street operations to WFS Smith. Menzies is forecast to report profits of about £30 million, with broker SG Securities expecting as much as £23 million.

TODAY — Phoenix Matthew Clark, Forster, Norton, Samuel Heath & Sons, Tomline, Whitmore.

TOMORROW — Interim Greenleaf Resources, Low & Gower, Puma, Burtol, Bompal, Birby, Bulgare, Harveys, Furness, Kalamazoo, Matthews, Abbey, Teuton Cider, Teuton Restaurant, Forster, Whitmore, JWE Telecom.

WEDNESDAY — Interim BVD Securities, Phoenix, Orlino, FI, Scullion & Newell.

THURSDAY — Interim Eneose, Interim, Phoenix William Hancock, Somerset.

FRIDAY — Interim Inn Business, Phoenix, Stillish, Bledstock, Shield, Diagnostics.

مكتبة القرآن

Circular walk along the Third Way

Larry Elliott

SINCE it's the examination season, here's a little paper for you on the Third Way. Imagine that you are a member of the Labour party and watching the news in 1988, when Margaret Thatcher was prime minister, Nigel Lawson was chancellor of the exchequer, and Kenneth Baker was education secretary.

The newsreader says that the crisis that began in Asia in mid-1987 has spread to Australia, South Africa and New Zealand. Mr Lawson has announced that the next stage in the Government's privatisation plan is to sell off 49 per cent of air traffic control and Mr Baker has said that McDonald's has been invited to use its business acumen in schools as a partner in one of his new Education Action Zones. What is your reaction?

Remember, we are talking about 1988 not 1998, so it is no good trusting out the answers you would be expected to give today, namely that they are all evidence of this Government's fresh, undogmatic approach to running Britain.

Of course, there may be some who cannot recall 1988, which now qualifies as ancient history of the sort that is no longer relevant (a key Third Way word) to the Britain of the new millennium (ditto). History, indeed, is presumably the sort of subject that will have to show it can cut it in the marketplace to survive in the new curriculum, or at the very least adapt to changing conditions.

Under the boring old syllabus, 1988 was the year of the Tet Offensive and the assassination of Robert Kennedy; under the exciting new syllabus, children could discover that it was the year the Big Mac went nationwide across the US.

Here are some hints for those still struggling with the concept of a Third Way. The

first thing to remember is that, despite everything we now hear, the idea of a Third Way is not new.

Indeed, the Third Way bowed along quite merrily in the West for about 30 years after the second world war. At that time it was called social democracy and charted a course midway between totalitarian communism at one pole and naked free-market capitalism at the other.

The main components of the Third Way were full employment, Welfare States, strong trade unions and restrictions on capital.

The old Third Way ran into serious problems in the mid-1970s — largely but not exclusively due to the fight over income shares both within and between countries caused by twin oil-price shocks.

For 20 years, the centre of gravity in the West was close to the free-market pole. The new Third Way argues that there is no going back to the Old Third Way, but that there are problems also with the Thatcher-Reagan model of *laissez-faire*.

The Government is like Thatcherism with extra surveillance cameras

Accordingly, the New Third Way is positioned somewhere between social democracy and neo-classicism, which means it is somewhere to the right of the Old Third Way.

It is perhaps worth looking at the assumptions that lie at the heart of the new thinking. The first is that social democracy ultimately proved to be a failure and that *laissez-faire* has broadly been a success.

Proof for this notion is pretty thin on the ground. As one economist puts it, in the past two decades the West has seen the replacement of the Golden Age with the Leadon Age.

Growth has been weaker, unemployment has been higher, inequality has widened dramatically, welfare states have been neglected. Moreover, tame financial markets have been replaced by regular and periodic bouts of intense instability, which have merely fed the desire of conservative policy-makers to pursue contractionary macro-economic policies.

There is a second, linked assumption — namely that neo-classical economists have a better understanding of the way economies work than did Keynes and his followers.

Deep down, the philosophy that underpins the new Third Way is that markets will ultimately deliver, and that intervention is best kept to a minimum. This is not to say that there should be no intervention, because there is a recognition that there may be short-term market failure which requires some remedying before equilibrium can be restored.

But Keynes's central idea — that no matter how long the time period was, a market economy might not possess adjustment mechanisms to correct the system — has been decisively rejected.

But despite the fact that the world is awash with neo-classical economists able to show with their mathematical models that markets are self-clearing, Keynes had a far better understanding of the way economies actually work.

The neo-classical model is

really based on Say's Law, which states that supply creates demand, and that depressions were impossible because production created income sufficient to buy everything in the market place. In this model, money is neutral and any increase in the money supply can only lead to higher inflation.

If all this were really true, then it is quite clear what the West should do about the incipient slump in Japan. Nothing at all.

In the end, the economy will return to full employment equilibrium and any intervention will only make the problem worse.

Is this what the West is doing? Don't you believe it. Policy-makers are dosing down their copies of the General Theory and deciding that there is something to be said for Keynes after all.

The fact that this much has been conceded suggests that serious Third Wayers might like to start exploring some of the other nostrums of neo-

classicism — that trade unions prevent the labour market from clearing, that public spending crowds out private investment, that environmental protection is a burden on business, that low taxes for the wealthy are vital for incentives.

Searching questions are already being asked in America. In his book *Plenty of Nothing*, Thomas Palley describes how the US has replaced Main Street capitalism — where benefits of economic growth were shared — with Mean Street capitalism.

Palley's call is for Structural Keynesianism — a programme to restore high-wage, full employment.

There are times — rare, admittedly — when the Government seems to want to run with bits of this agenda.

Fairness at Work, for example, is a modest advance for labour, the windfall tax and the working families tax credit have made the tax system slightly less regressive, and public investment is set to double over the next few years, albeit from a pitifully low base.

For much of the time, however, the Government seems to give the impression of being Thatcherism with extra surveillance cameras.

It is unclear whether Labour is following a broadly neo-liberal agenda because it believes in it or because it feels important to reassure those who really believe in it.

Of course, there are those who feel there is a coherence to this new approach. Anthony Giddens, the Prime Minister's favourite academic, was quoted in the Economist recently as saying that "there was a new cultural sensibility emerging, based on the collapse of neo-liberalism and post-modernism, and the start of global cosmopolitanism."

Some of us may be ready to embrace global cosmopolitanism. But there are others — those who wonder whether global cosmopolitanism means having their children receiving lessons on the nutritional delights of a Happy Meal — who still need to be convinced.

Indeed, they may think the talk of post-modernism is the response of John Lennon who, asked what he thought of the avant-garde movement in the 1960s, replied: "Avant-garde is French for bullshit."



Tourist rates - bank sells

Australia 2.627	Germany 2.9327	Malaysia 6.57	Singapore 2.74
Austria 20.57	Greece 43.03	Malta 0.6370	South Africa 10.17
Belgium 60.59	Hong Kong 12.50	Netherlands 3.2945	Spain 247.85
Canada 2.36	India 70.45	New Zealand 3.13	Sweden 13.14
Cyprus 0.86	Ireland 1.1570	Norway 12.59	Switzerland 2.477
Denmark 11.28	Israel 5.067	Portugal 206.81	Turkey 428.160
Finland 9.01	Italy 2.902	Saudi Arabia 6.11	US 1.5142
France 9.837			

Supplied by NatWest (excluding rupee, shahel and maldivian)

online

France plays centre-forward Cup game

Briefing

Peter Gaskell

IF FRANCE does not achieve World Cup triumph, it will not be for lack of effort on the part of the government. The authorities have put in a substantial financial investment over several years, aimed at adding France's name to the select band of six so far to have lifted football's biggest prize.

A combination of Cartesian logic applied to planning and preparations, plus investment carried out by an administration used to being the major player when it comes to the economy, have made the World Cup project one of the big centralised government ventures. No Millennium Dome baverings and hesitations for the French.

As if anticipating national triumph, the French economy has continued the recovery

which began in the spring of 1997, aided by a surge in exports. What has been spent and what are the likely benefits? The total cost of staging the World Cup has run to Fr4.4 billion (£940 million), of which 57 per cent has been financed by the public sector. Official figures show that the central government share amounted to Fr3.1 billion. Of that, Fr1.25 billion was spent on the new 80,000-seat Stade de France in Saint-Denis.

Central, regional and local authorities financed the bulk of the infrastructure work, leaving the French World Cup Organising Committee (the CFO) to manage the operating budget of Fr2.4 billion, made up of funds provided by sponsors (Fr900 million) and ticket sales (Fr1.5 billion). The CFO budgeted for a profit of Fr200 million and Fr350 million.

What will be left of a more permanent nature after the tourism, travel, catering, merchandise and other receipts have been banked?

First, at a cost of Fr1.4 billion, eight regional football grounds and the Parc des Princes on the edge of Paris have been upgraded. If France were to win the Cup, it could give a big lift to the national game, boost weekly league gates, currently about 10,000 mark, well below average for the English Premier League.

The most permanent beneficiary, however, seems to be the municipality of Saint-Denis, a traditionally poor area whose medieval cathedral was the coronation site for French kings but whose pre-

World Cup aspect was seedy, bedevilled by high unemployment and racial tension. Around the new stadium are a new sports centre, cinema complex, two new railway stations and a network of new roads. Two-thirds of the 1,500 long-term jobs created by the World Cup are in the community-run municipality.

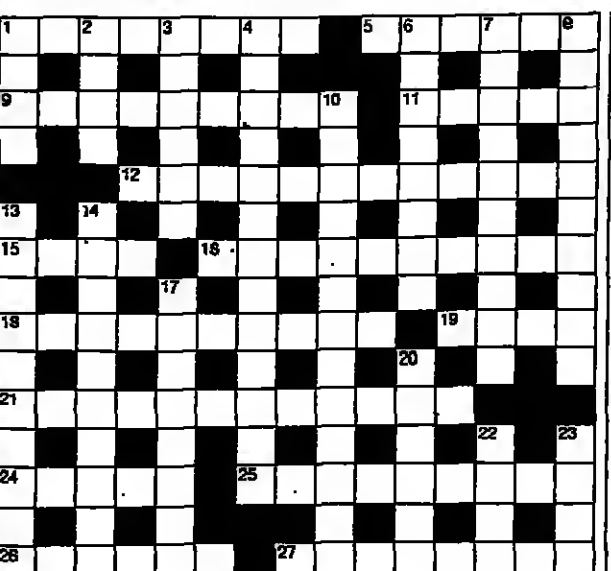
In the regional centres such as Nantes, Montpellier and Marseille, the investment promotion agency Datar has taken potential foreign investors on football-linked visits in an effort to clinch deals.

Datar claims a "positive response" but says it is too early to measure success. Experts say that, once the event is over, the boost to the economy will be no more than a blip — "too small to be measured", according to an official at the Insee national statistics agency.

If France were to lift the trophy, the invisible boost to economic performance and productivity would be considerable. It would be Le Figaro factor with a vengeance. Peter Gaskell is a writer on the French economy

Guardian Crossword No 21,319

Set by Auster

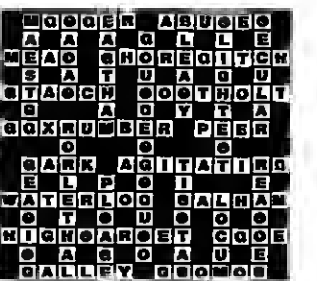


Across

- 1 Terribly hot inside, Sam possibly will have to strip off (8)
- 5 Big star goes back inside, due to change with extra (9)
- 9 Marked out among scattered remains of people from two continents (8)
- 11 Divine bounty in this manner of speaking (5)
- 12 Prove nothing's missing from wrecked bus station before tea break (12)
- 15 A woeful expression for a young girl to utter (4)
- 16 Cocaine detective has found in sudden enforcement of regulations (10)
- 18 Trickle of information about Goodman gets no points — its almost unheard of (5,5)
- 19 As they say, travel via the desert (4)

Down

- 1 Mormon heartland in which he put a huge stake (4)
- 2 Ship's company given credit and two points (4)
- 3 Accused, mounting party debts (5)
- 4 Primitive or modern-day medicine men — capital fellows (10)
- 6 Roundworm's mite changing into a swollen lump (8)
- 7 Fragrant timber apparently unsuitable for clove (10)



Answers to previous puzzles are in the back of the book. The weekly crossword is a collection of words from the Oxford English Dictionary. The words are chosen by the crossword compiler, Mr. L. A. W. Brown, of the Oxford English Dictionary. The words are chosen from the Oxford English Dictionary, which is the most comprehensive dictionary of the English language.

- 8 Leaders exchanging pounds and pennies with it for a franchise (10)
- 10 Permit to look into the main Catholic hospital and carry on after conflict (8,7)
- 13 Follow needs permit to come down in uncultivated field (6,4)
- 14 Inventories show Tom having a record — Sue is upset (10)
- 17 He swears to have seen a "dry" alcoholic compound (8)
- 20 The Queen follows, even changing a thin coat (6)
- 22 Fuzzy — not starting a fever? (4)
- 23 "Exodus" author's spoken of aurochs (4)

Solution tomorrow
24 Stuck? Then call our solutions line on 0800 333 238. Calls cost 50p per minute at all times. Service supplied by ATIS.



Every Thursday in the
The Guardian

Loyal rebel speaking from the heartlands



Our people's oversensitivity to constructive criticism from backbenchers is very short-sighted. They ought to welcome people speaking their minds.

Peter Hetherington on an Old Labour MP who embraces Blairism but acts as a reminder of uncomfortable truths

ON THE surface he appears the most unlikely backbench critic: a Labour traditionalist of the old centre-right, ultra-loyal with little ideological baggage, who was at the heart of Neil Kinnock's early reforms of the party machinery as long-serving chief whip. Derek Foster does not break ranks easily.

But a recent intervention at Prime Minister's question time, when he openly challenged Treasury policy and warned of "widespread dismay" about a two-speed economy in Labour's heartlands — in other words, a worrying North-South divide — sent a minor tremor through No 10.

This is hardly surprising. He was talking directly about constituencies such as Tony Blair's Sedgefield and his own in neighbouring Bishop Auckland — both dependent on a high level of manufacturing — that he said were suffering as a direct result of government policy.

He says he spoke spontaneously, from the heart, and recites the sting in the tail of that electrifying question word for word: "Is my faith friend, not a little uneasy that... employment growth in areas of the highest unemployment is going to be undermined by monetary policy aimed at overheating regions (like the South-east)?"

Yet he denies there is any streak of rebellion in his Christian Socialist soul and he is proud to recite the "S" word regularly — which emerged first in the Salvation Army over his beloved brass bands and was subsequently honed following a relatively late entry into the Labour Party after Oxford.

"A rebel? No, of course not. I surprise myself in some ways over the amount of the new agenda I am totally signed up to," he said.

But he then gives an indication of the unease among the hierarchy a few miles away over his recent — and continuing — criticism. This has intensified after publication of new figures showing that the North-east is bottom of Britain's wealth league, with income falling over the past year, against the national trend. "I think our people's oversensitivity to constructive criticism from their backbenchers is actually very short-sighted," says Mr Foster. "They ought to welcome

people speaking their minds more. We're not going to kick our own Government in the teeth. What we want is to be assured that it's addressing the problems we have to address as constituency MPs."

There is no denying Derek Foster's restlessness from his unease over the party's PR gloss — "my firm belief is that you cannot change the movement by ignoring its roots and history" — to a determination to label himself only "Labour", without that "New" prefix. He says stubbornly: "I think it is a PR device and I would rather have substance on the flesh."

It is a testing time in Labour's old heartlands. The faithful, Mr Foster concedes — councillors and activists alike — are a little restless, although few will speak out. Middle England often seems another country, and politicians from its constituencies seem to speak a different language in their appeal to its inhabitants.

'I surprise myself over how much of the new agenda I am signed up to'

On the one hand, Mr Foster understands the need for that broad appeal. On the other, he thinks the Government is so obsessed with "macro-economic policy that it is ignoring problems on the ground caused by the strong pound and rising interest rates. "Do you know that 50 per cent of the workforce in Sedgefield is employed in manufacturing (30 per cent above the national average)?" he asks.

The implication is clear. Some ministers representing northern constituencies have either a disturbingly narrow view of Britain, or they cannot see beyond London and the South-east, with its dependence on services.

But it is hard to avoid one question. Is Derek Foster's criticism not borne out of bitterness towards Tony Blair? "Absolutely not — honestly." He was, apparently, promised a cabinet post as the price for being replaced as Labour's chief whip after almost 10 years. Yet when Mr

Blair became Prime Minister he was only offered the deputy's job to David Clark as Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster. He at first accepted. After 26 hours he resigned. A mistake? "The more I thought about it, the more I thought it was a non-job," he recalls. "To be in the Labour cabinet was a dream, and it was dashed."

Bitter? He concedes he would be foolish to deny there were times when the episode dragged him down. "But I said to my wife there is no way I was going to let bitterness destroy the rest of my life. I had seen too many of my colleagues allowing bitterness to eat them up and make them smaller people."

So he soldiers on as chairman of the employment select committee, and insists it is providing him with one of his most fulfilling periods in parliament — although the role, inevitably, will bring him into conflict with ministers.

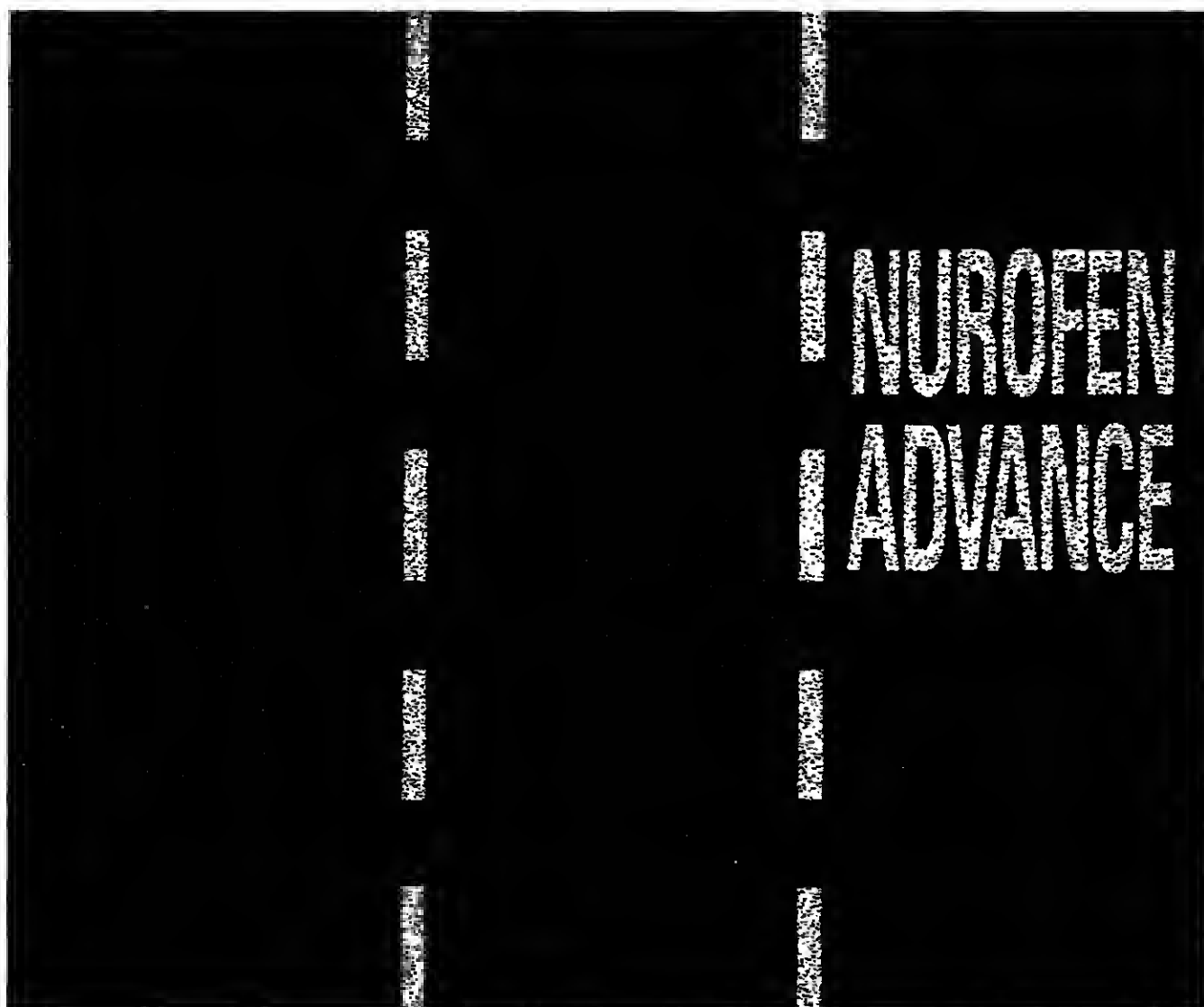
He is so near to Blairland — if not personally and politically close to the PM these days — that he even appeared in place of the Sedgefield MP at a recent local function to mark the 50th anniversary of Newton Aycliffe New Town, which the boundary commissioners took from Mr Foster at the last election.

Like Tony Blair, he was not born into the Labour movement, although he was born in Sunderland, son of a shipyard worker. His early passion, apart from football, was the Salvation Army, which he joined at the age of 12 and where he met his wife, Anne. He played the cornet in the band. ("The army is really practical socialism.")

After attending Bede Grammar School in Sunderland, he went to Oxford, where he gained a second in PPE and then went to work in industry with the Michelin Tyre Company at Stoke. Eventually, he headed back to his beloved North-east where he became a youth and community worker in Co Durham, then a further education organiser and finally an assistant director of education in Sunderland. He only joined the party in 1969 and, after spells as a local councillor, became MP for Bishop Auckland in 1979.

"I was not born into the Labour movement but absorbed into it, and it still moves me very deeply."

So much, in fact, that later this month he will be on the balcony of Durham's County Hotel — where countless Labour leaders have stood — cheering on the brass bands at the annual miners' gala. Few ministers will be there for an event that is Old Labour to the core. A pity, really, laments Derek Foster. Tradition is important.



**NEW NUROFEN ADVANCE.
FAST LANE
TO PAIN RELIEF.**

When you haven't got time for pain, try new Nurofen Advance. Nurofen Advance is different because it contains a unique ingredient. This is specially developed to be rapidly absorbed and get to the site of pain. Fast.



NUROFEN ADVANCE. FAST RELIEF FOR PAIN.

Available from your pharmacist. Always read the label.



Derek Foster in 1984 with then Labour leader Neil Kinnock

Background

Born: June 25, 1937, Sunderland

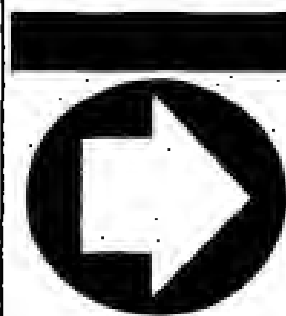
Education: Bede Grammar School, Sunderland; Oxford — BA (Hons) in politics, philosophy and economics

Career: Rep with Michelin tyres, and other spells in industry. Youth and community worker, further education organiser, assistant director of education

Hobbies: Brass bands and choirs; member of Salvation Army

Politics: Old centre-right Labour who now finds himself left of Tony Blair

Future: Potential irritant of Government as chairman of employment select committee. Potential leader of future North-east assembly?



'The CSA is a disastrous, abandoned child on the doorstep, and something had to be done'
Polly Toynbee

Comment, page 12



Don't believe in paying more than you need to. Our simple pledge. We promise we'll save you money compared to BT (even if you've got Friends and their other discount schemes). Or we'll give you money. Call us free to find out more.

Free Call 0800 056 9182
We can get it for you!



* Price Promise: three and conditions apply. For full details see our price list or call 0800 056 9182. All statements correct as at July 1998 and applicable to residential customers only. Service available only at serviceable locations. Applications subject to credit. Service, price and savings subject to change. For security of service purposes we may occasionally monitor or record your telephone calls to Cable & Wireless Call Centres.

In the 5-page sports section



Coach Crash
Woodward fears
axe from
Twickenham
24



Smart Alec
Captain heads
England's
recovery
28



Other pages
Football 18-20
Cricket 22, 23, 28
Rugby Union 24
Motorcycling, golf 25
Results 27

The Guardian Sport

Monday July 6 1998 www.football.guardian.co.uk/worldcup

Wimbledon 98



Made for each other... Pete Sampras kisses the singles trophy after his record-equaling victory, matching Bjorn Borg's five-time feat in the open era, on Centre Court yesterday

PHOTOGRAPH: DAVE GALLON

Sampras joins greats

Stephen Bierley sees the American win his fifth title

WHEN Goran Ivanisevic won the first set against Pete Sampras yesterday afternoon it seemed a clear and untroubled day might have finally dawned for the unpredictable but thoroughly congenial Croatian who enters every match with the hazard lights flashing warning of his own self-destruction.

Had he been facing anyone other than the multi-titled and multi-talented American he might well have won his first Grand Slam and, like Jana Novotna on Saturday, made it third time lucky on Centre Court. But it was not to be, and great was the sadness both for Ivanisevic and the crowd.

This was Sampras's fifth Wimbledon singles title, equalling the open-era record of Bjorn Borg. It also places him alongside Borg and Rod Laver with 11 Grand Slam titles in total, one behind the record 12 of Roy Emerson.

Yet for all his achievements and his supreme ability, the Centre Court crowd have never completely warmed to Sampras. Perhaps he simply lacks the vulnerability that makes Ivanisevic so endearing, although on this occasion Sampras was some way short of invincibility.

These have been a difficult 12 months for him. A little of the desire has deserted him, and he has struggled to motivate himself even for those tournaments he deems dear, namely the Grand Slams. Since beating France's Cédric Pioline at Wimbledon last year he had set points to reach the semi-finals in New

The final analysis

Sampras	Ivanisevic
6-7 7-6 6-4 3-6 6-2	
1st serve points won: 85%	83%
2nd serve points won: 74%	68%
Points won at net: 43%	29%
Points won in backhand: 13/14	10/14
Average second serve speed: 104	

twice he drove weak backhands into the net. He will rue them to the end of his career should a Grand Slam forever elude him.

Sampras knew he had been a little fortunate, but the truth is that champions make their own luck cannot be denied, for champions act instead of reacting, and when the world No. 1 — a position he secured by winning yesterday — broke Ivanisevic in the third set it appeared the end might come rather quickly.

Rarely, once he has his teeth in an opponent's throat, does Sampras loosen his grip. But he could do nothing when Ivanisevic played a quite brilliant sixth game in the fourth set.

Two fabulous cross-court passes, followed by a stunning winner down the line, left Sampras reeling and a third cross-court winner, made on the run, saw the American's serve, his trustiest of weapons, pulverised.

was on the court and Sampras attacked with savagery.

Two marvellously brave returns by Ivanisevic in Sampras's next service game were his last hurrah. Sampras, whose volleying had been a touch as weak in the final set, held his serve when it most mattered and then finished the Croatian off almost as an afterthought.

Much of this match, like their final four years ago which Sampras won 7-6, 7-6, 6-0, was a bleak reminder that, when two servers of such great accuracy and venom meet on grass, tennis is the ultimate loser. But there was just enough internal drama on this occasion to lift the match above and beyond a mere contest.

"I'm probably more comfortable on this court than any other in the world," said Sampras, whose days of Wimbledon glory may be far from over.

Ivanisevic, who also lost the final to Andre Agassi in 1992, left wondering if he wanted to return. "I feel bad for Goran," said Sampras. No doubt he meant it, but the turn of the screw had been no less relentless.

The American found it hard to come to terms with his achievement. "You never forget the first one, but it's hard to believe I've won five," he said. "It hasn't sunk in yet."

"As a kid I overthought I'd be in a position to equal Borg and thought his record would never be broken. It's overwhelming to think about myself in those terms."

Sampras offered a further consolation for the Croatian. "I feel Goran will win this one day. His game and serve are too big not to. It gets tougher every year, but he just needs a bit of luck."

Frank Keating, page 21

« La Philosophie de World Cup »

In which two French café intellectuals chew over this week's World Cup moments. All conversations lubricated by the best loved premium beer in France.



Could it be that the fundamental nature of a nation is revealed in the penalty shoot-out?

Morning, Claude. How was your night in Nantes with Milla La Maison?

As Jim White pointed out in *The Meaning of Cantona* (Maison, £9.99), "The player-post will rarely prevail in an overcrowded penalty box."

So you didn't...?

And penalties were much on my mind, driving back last night. White demonstrates that, in the beautiful game, there is no closer parallel to the act of love than in the elaborate courtship dances between penalty-taker and goalkeeper.

A little far-fetched, surely. No, listen. It's precisely in the raising of penalties that a nation most intimately reveals its true character. Consider the Frenchman and his celebrated

pride in technique. He works assiduously at zonal preparation and angles of approach, boastfully calculating velocity and depth of penetration... And the goalkeeper succumbs. No, he falls asleep halfway through. The crowd's gone home and the ball's in the back of the net.

I'm not sure I dare ask you about the Italians. With the Italians, it's all over so quickly that the goalkeeper doesn't know it's happened. You surprise me. By your analysis, shouldn't he first take the goalkeeper home and introduce him to his extended family. Papa, mama, grandparents, aunts, uncles, kith and kin...?

Very good, patron. Of course, the penalty-takers from the naïve countries are particularly

popular with goalkeepers on account of their stamina and the faded size of their... Thank you, Claude, we've got the picture. Anyway, these days we no longer accept the concept of goalkeeper as passive object. Indeed not. Which is precisely why the modern-minded goalkeeper plays an equal part in the courtship dance. While dressing colourfully, adopting every hair-raising and prancing about skittish, he yet remains fully in control of his box. So how does that explain the English keeper? He looked like a bank messenger with a silly moustache. Which is why they went home early. A bit like you, Claude.

Tony Black & William Corbett

« He works assiduously at zonal preparation »



Quarter-final: Holland 2 Argentina 1

Holland march to Bergkamp's beat



PHOTOGRAPH: ENRIQUE MARCARIAN

Wm. H. & Co

A black and white photograph of a wooden cribbage board. The board is rectangular with a grid of 16 squares (4 rows by 4 columns). Each square contains a number from 1 to 16, arranged in a boustrophedon pattern. The numbers are: Row 1 (left to right): 1, 16, 15, 14; Row 2 (right to left): 13, 12, 11, 10; Row 3 (left to right): 9, 8, 7, 6; Row 4 (right to left): 5, 4, 3, 2. The board has a decorative border and a small metal clasp at the top center.

astonished, he is your man. Illegally harried and harassed throughout the game, Ortega kept his cool until the 87th minute, when he dribbled into the Dutch penalty area and appeared to dive over a challenge by Jaap Stam. The referee Arturo Brizio Carter instantly waved a yellow card. But when Edwin van der Sar came off his goal-line to remonstrate and stood threateningly over Ortega's prostrate form, the Argentinian reasserted his machismo by leaping to his feet in such a way that the top of his head made contact with the Dutch goalkeeper's chin.

There was some contact, certainly, but not as much as Van der Sar's stricken response indicated. From the way the Dutchman reeled, you would have thought he had taken a Tyson uppercut on his jaw. It was enough to persuade the referee to follow the yellow with a red, although Van der Sar's provocation received no punishment.


Three minutes later, just after Numan had attracted a caution for tripping Ortega, Lopez raced through the dispersed Dutch defence to wrongfoot Van der Sar and prod the ball between the goal-

Ortega hit the woodwork from 25 yards just before half-time and 15 minutes into the second period Gabriel Batistuta narrowly failed to register his sixth goal of the competition when he ran on to Juan Veron's perfect pass, cut inside Frank de Boer, and smashed the ball against a post with Van der Sar helpless.

During the 12 minutes in which they enjoyed numerical superiority Argentina showed the same curious reluctance to launch an all-out assault as they had against the depleted England. And with both sides down to 10 men, and only 30 seconds left on the clock, Bergkamp delivered the *coup de grace* when he controlled a long diagonal pass from Frank de Boer with the most delicate of touches, turned inside Roberto Ayala and used the outside of his right foot to strike the ball across Roa and inside the far angle.


SUBSTITUTIONS: Argentinean Pinado for Almayda, 67mic; Balbo for Chamot, 90; Holland Overmars for R De Boer, 63.
SENT OFF: Argentinean Ortega, 87.
Yellow Card: Numan, 75.
BOOKED: Argentinean Chamot, Sensini, Ortega.
Red Card: Stam, Numan.
REFEREE: A Brizio Carter (Mexico).

France 98 saint v sinner

			
Goal attempts			
Goals			
Efforts on target			
Efforts off target			
Passes			
Accurate passes	24		7
Mistaken passes	17		
Goal assists	1		
Setbacks			
Beat opponents			
Yards			
Feats			
Free-kicks won	2		1
Free-kicks conceded			1
Offsides		1	0
Red cards			1
Yellow cards			

Jose Pekerman, who has coached Argentina's Under-20 team to two World Championships, is favorite to take over, though Carlos Bilardo, the 1986 World Cup-winning coach, is said to be mulling over a return.

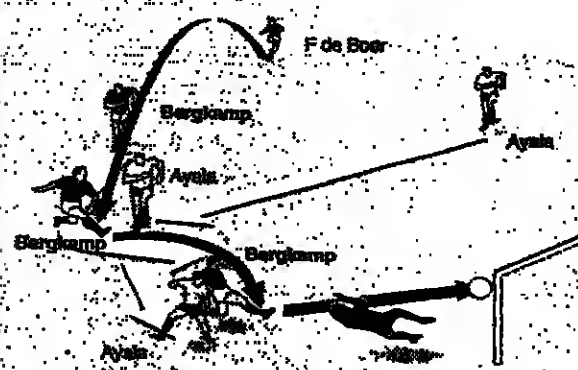
France 98 saint v sinner

			
Goal attempts			
Goals			
Efforts on target			
Efforts off target			
Passes			
Accurate passes	24		7
Mistaken passes	17		
Goal assists	1		
Setbacks			
Beat opponents			
Yards			
Feats			
Free-kicks won	2		1
Free-kicks conceded			2
Offsides		2	0
Red cards			1
Yellow cards			

Key

→ Ball movement

L Player movement



The Argentinian goalkeeper Carlos Roa sensed the danger and came out to challenge, only for Bergkamp, who had swung 45 degrees to his left, to lift the ball high into the net with the outside of his right foot — only his third touch of the ball in the move.

Only Bergkamp appeared to realise the pass's potential as he sprinted the final few yards to collect the ball on the volley and bring it under control with his right instep.



Mercedes-Benz



Signature USED CARS One less thing to worry about.

Thoroughly inspected by Mercedes trained technicians, every Signature used car comes with 12 months warranty and roadside assistance, independent certificates for mileage and history plus a replacement car in the unlikely event of a breakdown. Put your mind at rest, call 0800 665 480 for more details.

France 98

Put your shirt on the diving championships as triple rolls take centre stage and Holland play the part of fall guys

Roy Collins

MANDY Rice-Davies could offer the perfect response to the complaints of forwards, led by those of Holland, that the new FIFA edict on tackles from behind intended to aid the skilful players has in practice worked against them. Though not strictly an-

forced, the directive that violent challenges from behind, or even side-on, should draw an immediate red card has helped games to flow beyond the fondest dreams of most observers. And if any side was to benefit from this muzzling of defenders, it was surely going to be the Dutch, with players of the talents and apparent frailty of Dennis Bergkamp and Marc Overmars.

Instead, the Dutch have complained that the new ruling has seen them literally become the fall guys of diving opponents in attack and defence. They can make a reasonable claim in the case of

their striker Patrick Kluivert, sent off against Belgium because of a theatrical tumble by Lorenzo Staelens, who later apologized. And Jaap Stam was booked in Saturday's quarter-final against Argentina when Ariel Ortega pulled himself down using Stam's shorts.

Holland are on stickier ground, however, with Bergkamp, who seems to have developed a new zero tolerance to defenders' tackling since teaming up with Ian Wright at Arsenal. Having mistaken Sinisa Mihajlovic for an Arsenal player in the match against Yugoslavia, Bergkamp then

took the line of a householder justifying reasonable force against an intruder. What we must always bear in mind is that footballers approach changes in the game's laws the way accountants react to alterations in the tax laws. They are consumed with a moral duty not to comply but to seek a loophole, treating the whole thing as a manly test of their ingenuity.

Even God's messenger, the England coach Glenn Hoddle, admitted telling Michael Owen that it was his professional duty as a footballer, if not a Christian, to play for penalties and a red card for his marker. Naturally, the word cheating was not mentioned. Hoddle merely emphasised that Owen should look for the diagonal runs across defenders which would encourage the sort of tackle that normally ends in the latter's dismissal.

Depressing as it may be, a rule which should allow the likes of Bergkamp and Ortega to display their God-given talents does not prevent them from trying to exploit it further.

Even God's messenger, the England coach Glenn Hoddle, admitted telling Michael Owen that it was his professional duty as a footballer, if not a Christian, to play for penalties and a red card for his marker. Naturally, the word cheating was not mentioned. Hoddle merely emphasised that Owen should look for the diagonal runs across defenders which would encourage the sort of tackle that normally ends in the latter's dismissal.

What the world's papers say

Croatian knights in a daze

Dennis Staunton in Berlin, Martin Thorpe and Paddy Agnew in France

CROATIA was in a state of shock, but not too shocked to celebrate as never before. In Zagreb, masses who had watched the game on two giant screens converged on Republic Square in a state of what one onlooker described as "euphoric disbelief".

Golden Boot

Battistuta (Argentina)	5
Vieri (Italy)	5
Hernandez (Mexico)	4
Salas (Chile)	4
Suker (Croatia)	4
Bergkamp (Holland)	3
Bierhoff (Germany)	3
Cesar Sampaio (Brazil)	3
Henry (France)	3
Klinsmann (Germany)	3
Rivaldo (Brazil)	3
Ronaldo (Brazil)	3

bound of gunshots had rung in the people's ears as they fought a war they did not want. Now the same sounds mingled with car horns all around the square in honour of an improbable victory.

As more than 100,000 gathered in the main square, they kissed and hugged friends and strangers alike, dancing in the fountains until dawn. The president Franjo Tudman acknowledged the power of victory over Germany to put his emerging country on the map. "The Croatia knights have shown their strength," he said. "This is a day which raises the profile of Croatia in

Europe and the world." Even Croatia's coach Miroslav Blazevic was happy to acknowledge the power of change. During the team's bad times his slightly effeminate manner had prompted the supporters to chant "poof, poof". Yesterday the coach was in fighting mood. "I'm very pleased I'm not gay any more," he said. "Now I'm maestro."

Before the game the Croatia team had been told that their challenge was being belittled in German newspapers. "Thanks to Bert Vogt for the best motivation, saying we are only a small country," said Davor Suker afterwards. "What is he going to say now when it is 3-0?"

In the German media now there is soul-searching and scapegoat-hunting. Some commentators simply concluded that the squad were no longer strong enough. Others, such as the Berlin tabloid BZ, put the blame elsewhere.

"It was our best game in this World Cup... it became our greatest debate since 1938. And the whole of Germany is furious with one man: referee Rune Pedersen. He showed Worms the red card and hurled our XI towards ruin," the paper said. For Bild am Sonntag the result was no surprise. "What was expected already in the preliminary rounds and again against Mexico was simply confirmed against Croatia: the typical, highly-praised German virtues of determination, aggression, strength and athleticism are no longer sufficient in World Cup football to make up for tactical deficiencies. The English can look to a rosy future. The Germans

have a super past, but the future? Despite the European Championship win two years ago, do Germany still even count among the greats?" There were no rotten tomatoes for Italy's fallen heroes at Milan airport but elimination by France has prompted speculation about the coach Cesare Maldini, despite a vote of confidence from the president of the Italian federation, Luciano Nizzola.

La Repubblica said: "Let's admit one thing: France did everything to win, Italy did nothing." Corriere Della Sera agreed: "The problem is not one of tactics but mentality. Germany, for example, are defensive but play to win while this Italy play not to lose." Alessandro Del Piero was not fit and it is outrageous that Maldini did not realise this in training."



Zigzag Zagreb... a Croatian couple celebrate the win over Germany along with 100,000 compatriots in Zagreb's main square

PHOTOGRAPH BY VOJE GRIG

A potential Orange feast better saved until last

Martin Thorpe detects a growing sense of Dutch destiny despite the Brazilian barrier

IT IS the way with World Cup that the best is rarely saved until last. Holland versus Brazil has a sumptuous ring to it, but a semi-final remains a frustratingly premature stage for this clash of cavaliers.

Setting aside Nigeria's brief bursts of inspiration, have any team shown more attacking intent and a greater ability to deliver goals consistently from creative open play and under pressure than Holland and Brazil?

A showdown between 22 players who love to dominate the ball would have offered a fitting climax to what, after all, is meant to be a celebration of the best in the game. But Holland's appearance in the last four of a tournament they have amazingly never won is still a triumph for classy fighters everywhere.

When the first-round sparring made way for a proper test of knockout skills against well-matched defences, other heavyweight contenders showed a lack of punching power: Italy against Norway and France; France themselves against Paraguay and then Italy.

Argentina's early promise also turned out to be an optical illusion, as they laboured against England's 10 men and, despite hitting the post twice on Saturday, allowed Holland to dominate for long periods and threaten regularly.

"We had been encouraged when we saw England create so much space and chances against Argentina," said Marc Overmars, though no one could have envisaged the beauty of the winning goal. Control, junk, shot: three steps to heaven.

Leo Beenhakker, the Holland coach in 1990, said of the winner: "It was the authentic Dennis Bergkamp. He is a man of moments. There are mistakes, poor control, poor passing. Then there is a moment of brilliance."

"It is typically Dutch to go on about those poor periods. But Bergkamp made the first goal and scored the second. If he was Spanish or Argentinian we would make him a god."

And if there is one other reason to celebrate Holland's victory over Argentina it is this: for all their qualities, Daniel Passarella's team feel the need to cheat.

We are not talking only about diving, although against Croatia Gabriel Battistuta could have opened his own flying school, and Ariel

Ortega too knows more about take-off and landing than the average pilot. But everyone dives these days.

No, Argentinians also operate on a subtler level. It was the player backing into Sol Campbell without punishment which goaded the defender into giving away the free-kick for the equaliser against England.

And when David Beckham kicked out at Diego Simeone, what of the Argentinian "innocently" pushing his hand into the prone Beckham's back?

Saturday's irony was that, although Ortega had this time been genuinely kicked all over the park, he was the one sent off, largely because of a fall by Edwin van der Sar straight from Ortega's own repertoire.

If the racial fault-line in the Dutch camp can hold — and everyone seems to have kissed and made up after the bizarre incident at the end of the Yugoslavia game — the team's form is good enough to achieve anything.

Holland's search for revenge over Brazil for beating them in the 1994 quarter-finals will be trickier than beating the Argentinians, especially as Overmars is out because of injury. But Dutch self-belief has grown with every game and maybe, after more than two decades of trying, this year is finally destined to be theirs.

Holland have a big selection worry after Winston Bogarde broke a leg in training yesterday. Bogarde, who was taken to a Monaco hospital, had been expected to replace the suspended Arthur Numan at left-back tomorrow.

Paul Ince has admitted that he played in France with a broken left ankle. The England midfielder, who missed more than half the crucial defeat against Romania after a tackle on the ankle, told a Sunday newspaper: "I spoke to Glenn about my ankle and it was simply a case of hoping for the best."

Fan's eye view

Bar bar blemish on the French picture

Wrek Chaudhary

IT IS easier to buy a ticket for a World Cup quarter-final match in Marseille than it is for a man with a brown face to enter one of the city's nightclubs.

This is my third visit to Marseille and I have arrived ticketless for the Holland v Argentina match. The orange army is in town along with the Argentinians, both of whom have decided to congregate in the Vieux Port area of the city. During the World Cup, Vieux Port has attracted large numbers of fans and ticket-touts. It might not be the hippest area of the city but it is certainly the liveliest.

The Friday night before the match I am sitting in Le Tabac bar, which overlooks the harbour, where I began chatting to a group of Dutch and Argentinian fans. After several beers, we decide to go to the Trolley Bus, a nearby nightclub which is holding a special World Cup night.

As we arrive at the door, a small cluster of people are waiting outside arguing with the bouncers. None of them are white. They are told to make way for our group and the bouncers allow everybody in, except me. The bouncer tells me that I can't go in because I am wearing trainers. I point out that so is everybody else, but he ignores me.

The night continues in the same vein. There were either problems with my trainers, T-shirt or even my trousers. There is no shortage of black and brown French faces milling around but few appear to be bothering with the club. There seems to be an unwritten rule that they will not be allowed to enter. I tried eight nightclubs and I got the red card at each one.

There are some great things about Marseille, namely the city's spirit and its openness. But this is also Le Pays country — the extreme right polls around 25 per cent city-wide — and an ugly sinister side lurks beneath the veneer of friendliness.

My spirits are pretty deflated and my ego a little dented by the saddest thing that struck me about the whole night as I returned to my camper van is that nearly all the bouncers in Vieux Port clubs are black. Now back to the football.

Aldo, an Argentinian who I met in Le Tabac bar had also arrived ticketless. He told me of a hotel in the Le Pharo area where the receptionist knew of somebody selling tickets.

I went to the hotel on Saturday morning, around five hours before the match. When I told the receptionist that I only wanted one for myself she appeared a little disappointed. Her face dropped even further when I told her that I was definitely not interested in the £250 hospitality tickets (drinks included).

She told me to go to a bar less than 10 minutes away and ask for Francois. He had 250 tickets which he was selling for £75. Not bad for a quarter-final match.

Francois was behind the bar when I walked in. I soon realised that not only was he running a lucrative business in selling World Cup tickets but he was also the bar owner. A group of Argentinians were sitting in the corner, drinking coffee. "They have bought 30," Francois told me with a massive smile across his face.

I gave Francois the money and told him that I might return for a semi-final ticket. He handed me a ticket for the Holland v Argentina match. The whole process took less than an hour.

**NOT GOING TO THE WORLD CUP THIS SUMMER?
LET VAUXHALL BRING IT TO YOU.**

WWW.VAUXHALL.CO.UK

Tennis

Novotna holds her nerve to lay a ghost

Stephen Bierley sees the creaking Czech take the title at last

MARTINA Navratilova, nine times the Wimbledon singles champion, once said of Monica Seles: "If she had Steffi Graf's serve, we'd all be gone." And surely if Jana Novotna had Graf's nerve, her first Grand Slam title would have come long before Saturday's agonisingly tense 6-4, 7-6 victory over France's Nathalie Tauziat.

This was a memorable rather than an outstanding final, for it was simply drenched with too much emotion ever to ignite more than spasmodically as a genuine contest. *Boys in the back* is how one French journalist described Tauziat's style of play: "A little bit of everything: a few herbs, a little wine, some vegetables — all cooked together and often very difficult to eat."

Novotna knew this. The French woman had won three of their four meetings, although they had never played before on grass, which has always been the Czech's favourite surface.

However, Tauziat's forcing backhand, and her ability to volley instinctively made it improbable that Novotna would be able to dominate totally from the net, while it was starkly apparent from her opening service game that the Czech's nerves might yet, again, be her downfall. Tauziat is not afraid to challenge either authority or her peers. A few years ago on Court One she complained to the umpire about Seles's grunting, and on Saturday she vented her feelings after Novotna had signalled a ball out which had not been called and the umpire over-ruled.

It was one more person for the demonstrative and combative Tauziat to fight against, and she was still complaining when Novotna broke her service for the second time, effectively ending the new world No. 2's first set.

Novotna has been wearing a back support since the French Open and, as she served, she expelled a low creaking sound, like a dampened note from a taut string. The question was, would she snap?

Breaks of serve in the women's game are nothing like as significant as in the men's and, with neither Tauziat nor Novotna finding her rhythm, the second set was always on a knife edge, with Novotna's nerves sharpening the blade.



Tears of joy... Jana Novotna celebrates her Wimbledon victory, beating Nathalie Tauziat 6-4, 7-6

She served for the title at 6-4, 5-4 but what appeared to be a winning Novotna smash on the first point was called out and the sport's most friable of emperors began to fall apart. For five years she has lived with interminable references to her astonishing collapse against Graf when, leading 4-1 in the third set, Novotna blew the All England title here. So, when Tauziat squared the second set at 5-5, the murmurs that swirled around the Centre Court spoke only of

that one implausible afternoon in 1993. But finally Novotna was to escape her past. A netted backhand volley was the beginning of the end for Tauziat in the tie-break, while a wonderfully athletic backhand volley of her own virtually clinched the title for the Czech. Her coach Hana Mandlikova, the former Australian, French and US Open champion, described herself, on her retirement in 1990, as being "like an orange without juice". It has

sometimes seemed that the sound of Novotna's pips squeaking has underscored Grand Slam after Grand Slam in the 1990s. At last the squeeze is off. Jana Novotna is finally a champion. And most deservedly so. Novotna will make a rare appearance before her home crowd at this week's WTA tournament in Prague, where she is seeded to meet the Wimbledon semi-finalist Natasha Zvereva of Belarus in the final four.

Ivanisevic ends in sweat and tears

IT WAS so nearly an unbelievable weekend for Croatia, one which would have been logged in the sporting chronicles for all time: World Cup semi-finals and Wimbledon champion as well. But no such luck. It took almost three hours before Goran Ivanisevic's bold and vivid challenge palpably and suddenly subsided in the fifth set yesterday — and, like a massive breaker dying on the sea wall, it was all over and done with as if it had never really happened.

Time and dusty reference books will remember 1998 as an acclaimed champion's record and that's about it for posterity. Poor Goran. For here was the martyrdom of Spartacus, Wimbledon-style if not Hollywood's.

The picture of pain and torment which harrowingly seared across the Croat's face at the end was almost Biblical. Sweat and poignant tears cascaded into his great dark beard.

It was death in the afternoon, in a way — or, if not, he certainly threatened it in the evening. "I feel like to kill myself. I am no use to anybody now. This is the worst thing ever in my life," he said.

"I agree nobody did die out there but I might as well die now. How can I motivate myself for tennis ever again? It was my great chance. At the beginning he was nervous, I was nervous. I have two set-points in the second tie-break. Would he have come back from that?"

"I give them to him. It was ridiculous. I was so close. I came back and gave my whole being in the fourth set. But halfway through the fifth, it was like somebody hit me."

No messing, somebody had been hitting him for almost three solid hours, and mighty hard as well. In matching and hurtful retort, thus for him, Ivanisevic had been hitting him back of course, often with interest. This was "in your face" tennis with a vengeance, as the two of them, one-man hit squads, traded some fearsome ammo across the net.

It began as almost routine, each man wheeling out his lifeline heavy as lead and we looked at each other — just as they did across the net — to say "Here we go again."

But it became, long before the end, much more than that and was almost heroic in its grandeur. Quiet, please! Boom! Boom! Game Sampras.



Ivanisevic... torment

Frank Keating sees the Croatian Centre Court storm blow itself out in the fifth set of the Wimbledon final

Game Ivanisevic. Boom! Boom! Quiet, please! The mounting intensity of it, and turn and turnabout, the courage both to deliver and withstand, grew into an epic with a highly dramatic life of its own.

This was great theatre, without a doubt, and the most valiantly contested Wimbledon final for years.

Here was the ultimate in narrow-eyed power play with scarcely a sensitive rally allowed. Each shot, each look, was laced with venom and malice. The two of them, nicely, were exactly level in shooting the day's fastest service at 134 mph. Ivanisevic, mightily, served 32 clean aces to Sampras's 12 but in between, as he overstrained the whole man and spirit of himself, the Croat served 18 double faults, 10 more than the comparatively composed and icy champion.

Ivanisevic might even have totted up an astonishing half-century of aces but for a whicker, for time and again Sampras did wonderfully well to

get a nick of racket on the ferociously passing blur of fuzz, edging some to first or second slip, a couple to deep third man and one skier into the gods even.

In turn Ivanisevic had the side alphas cowering several times when the Sampras serve's more canny venom and change of angle had the left-hander stranded in mid-court. Wrong-footed on his two great Cornish-pastie shoes, with stance wrongly set, the challenger would desperately flail, two-handed and flat-batted, and the ball would fly off the middle to deep mid-wicket. Dangerous stuff. The whole afternoon was fraught with danger.

Ivanisevic seemed all of a pent-up passion throughout, although the truth was probably that Sampras was simply showing it less. But the Croat kept his sometimes furious temper in control. He called for new shoes and made a big production of tying up the laces, just so. He muttered occasionally, implored the heavens a few times, or his competitors in their red-checked national shirts.

Sampras had arrived obviously expecting a long, long day at the office. His whopping great sportsbag seemed laden with lunch as it was carried on court.

The American seemed ready for a mighty big picnic. He laid out four bottles for starters of Ribena-coloured flagons under his chair. Ivanisevic came in far lighter, putting one bottle of orange juice alongside him.

Sampras, all cool demeanour and knowing class, wore his trademark and baggy Brooks Brothers whites like a Gatsby would. Then Gatsby set about evicting from his party this bearded, muttering, madcap gatecrasher in his blue bandana. It took an awful long time to get rid of him.

In fact the champion might not have managed it at all had the interloper just played that second-break more calmly. As Gatsby's creator Scott Fitzgerald noted once: "Show me a hero and I will write you a tragedy."

It was nearly a great champion grasping at his place in history who was that tragic hero yesterday. But in the end, alas, it was the gatecrasher.

"It takes a bit of luck to win a major sometimes," said Sampras afterwards. No such luck for Goran yesterday.

And the smiles follow with Hingis

Richard Jago

JANA NOVOTNA cried when she won the singles on Saturday but smiled so much during the doubles final yesterday that it looked as though she might let a weekend of triumph slip through her grasp.

Although she became the first player for a decade simultaneously to take the Wimbledon singles and doubles titles, there were moments during the 6-3, 3-4, 8-6 win for Novotna and Martina Hingis over Natasha Zvereva and Lindsay Davenport when it seemed the new and the old Wimbledon singles champions might be too light-hearted about it all.

Grimaces and giggles and a general sense of celebration during the first half of the contest always seemed cavalier and premature, and it was hardly

a surprise when a lead of a set and 3-1 suddenly evaporated.

Once Hingis's serve was broken it went down the sport's No. 1 seeds lost seven successive games as Zvereva moved to within sight of retaining the title as she and her new American partner went a break up in the final set.

But there were signs that Novotna's triumph may be making her a different player. A wound has been healed and there was a sense of security about her play even as the match seemed to be slipping away when Hingis went through an indifferent patch.

In the end Hingis rediscovered her return of serve and created the extra pressure which made the difference. The gracious teenager deserved this reward for the way she had responded to Novotna taking her singles title.

Novotna certainly worked

hard to repay her. But until Zvereva, whose anticipation, and interceptions had often chased her the player of the match, made the mistake of the match by double-faulting on match point, the outcome of an excellent final had remained in doubt.

It was nevertheless a good day for Minsk. Zvereva's fellow Belarusian Max Mirnyi will celebrate his 21st birthday today as one of the most improbable of Wimbledon champions, leading his scratch partnership with the American Serena Williams to the mixed doubles title.

They won twice in a day, and their victory in the final over Mahesh Bhupathi and Mirjana Lucic not only saw two 16-year-olds opposing each other in a Wimbledon final for the first time, it made Serena and Venus Williams the first sisters to hold Grand Slam titles simulta-

neously, the elder Williams having won the mixed at the Australian.

It meant the younger sister won her first Wimbledon title at her first Wimbledon and it made Serena a star as Venus looked on.

At the other end of the age- and experience scale, the Woodies' record-breaking run of 35 consecutive Wimbledon wins and five consecutive titles came to an end amid tense scenes on Saturday evening. The Australian Todd Woodbridge and Mark Woodforde lost 10-8 in the final set of the men's doubles final against the Dutch pair Paul Haarhuis and Jacco Eltingh.

But although Woodforde is the oldest player on the ATP Tour and shortly to be married, it is not the Aussies who plan to stop. Instead Eltingh, whose wife is expecting a baby, is the one who is talking of quitting.

Wimbledon final results

Men's Singles

Final
(Seeds in capitals)
P SAMPRAS (US) 7-6 (4) G IVANISEVIC (CRO) 6-7, 7-6, 6-4, 6-4, 6-2

Men's Doubles

Final
J BLAKE/US 6-3, 7-6, 6-4, 6-4, 6-2
J BLAKE/US 6-3, 7-6, 6-4, 6-4, 6-2

Men's Over-35

Doubles
Final
G McHugh/US 6-3, 7-6, 6-4, 6-4, 6-2
G McHugh/US 6-3, 7-6, 6-4, 6-4, 6-2

Women's Singles

Final
J NOVOTNA (CZ) 6-4, 7-6 (4) N TAUZIAT (FR) 6-4, 7-6

Women's Doubles

Semi-finals
L A DAVENPORT/N ZVEREVA (US/BLR) 6-3, 6-4, 6-2
L A DAVENPORT/N ZVEREVA (US/BLR) 6-3, 6-4, 6-2

Women's Over-35

Doubles
Final
P H BAKER/US 6-3, 7-6, 6-4, 6-4, 6-2
P H BAKER/US 6-3, 7-6, 6-4, 6-4, 6-2

Mixed Doubles

Semi-finals
M BAKER/US 6-3, 7-6, 6-4, 6-4, 6-2
M BAKER/US 6-3, 7-6, 6-4, 6-4, 6-2

Boys' Singles

Final
M BAKER/US 6-3, 7-6, 6-4, 6-4, 6-2
M BAKER/US 6-3, 7-6, 6-4, 6-4, 6-2

Boys' Doubles

Semi-finals
L A DAVENPORT/N ZVEREVA (US/BLR) 6-3, 6-4, 6-2
L A DAVENPORT/N ZVEREVA (US/BLR) 6-3, 6-4, 6-2

Girls' Singles

Semi-finals
K CILICERO (BLR) 6-3, 7-6, 6-4, 6-4, 6-2
K CILICERO (BLR) 6-3, 7-6, 6-4, 6-4, 6-2

Girls' Doubles

Semi-finals
P BAKER/US 6-3, 7-6, 6-4, 6-4, 6-2
P BAKER/US 6-3, 7-6, 6-4, 6-4, 6-2

The Guardian Subscription Offer

Subscribe today for 35% discount plus free home delivery

The Guardian, as winner of the coveted 1998 "Newspaper of the Year Award" sets the agenda for investigative journalism and quality feature writing. The Guardian International includes these award winning stories and as it is available in over 50 countries worldwide, it is a truly international paper that brings you the news every day, on the day.

Subscribe to the Guardian International today and not only will we offer you substantial discounts, but we will deliver your paper to your home or office free of charge.

Simply call +44 181 410 0216 between 9am and 5pm (GMT) or fill in the application form below.

* Offer only available in selected European cities. See table for details.

City	Currency	3 month Guardian @ 20% discount	6 month Guardian @ 30% discount	12 month Guardian @ 35% discount
Milan	ITL	218,400	362,200	703,000
Paris	FF	750	1,310	2,410
Nice	FF	750	1,310	2,410
Frankfurt	D.M.	237	415	764
Hamburg	D.M.	237	415	764
Geneva	S.F.	218	382	703
Zurich	S.F.	218	382	703
Brussels	B.F.	4,370	7,640	14,060
Amsterdam	FLG	266	465	855
Madrid	PTAS	15,000	27,300	50,200
Stockholm	SKR	1,090	1,880	3,415
Copenhagen	DKR	1,090	1,880	3,415

Please also ask for further subscription offers on the Observer.

Order your subscription today

☐ Yes, I want to start receiving the Guardian International. This is the subscription term I prefer:

☐ 12 months ☐ 6 months ☐ 3 months

☐ To pay by Bank Transfer (please call +44 181 410 0216)

☐ My cheque is enclosed, payable to Guardian Media Group PLC.

Please charge my: ☐ Amex ☐ Access ☐ Diners ☐ Visa ☐ Switch

Card No.

Expiry date: Switch issue No.

Amount

Signature

Summe

Title

Job Title

Full address*

Zip Code

Country

Tel: **Fax:**

* Papers will be delivered to this address unless otherwise stated. Offer expires on June 30th 1998. Return your completed application form to Guardian International Subscriptions, First Floor, Palmerston House, 111 Kingston Road, London, SW19 1LT

Tel: +44 181 410 0216 Fax: +44 181 410 0227

Stop/Start Service: Guardian International will suspend your subscription during your vacation and restart delivery upon your return. Just let us know one week in advance.

How many times per week do you buy the Guardian International? ☐

If you do not wish to receive any further offers or information screened by the Guardian Media Group, please tick ☐

Sunday scoreboard

AXA League

DURHAM 0
LEICESTERSHIRE 4

Barbican Leicestershire won by 107 runs.

LEICESTERSHIRE 23
V M Gwynne & Phillips & Suggs

V J Wells & Wood

S F Smith & C. Kilian

D. Mackay & B. Suggs

P. A. Nixon & S. B. Kilian

A. Hobb run out

I. S. Smith & B. Suggs

J. M. Dalin & S. Phillips

G. Williamson run out

G. M. Smith & S. Kilian

M. T. Bennett run out

Extras (10.11, 18, 102)

Total (38.2 overs)

151, 152, 153

151, 152, 153

151, 152, 153

151, 152, 153

151, 152, 153

151, 152, 153

151, 152, 153

151, 152, 153

151, 152, 153

151, 152, 153

151, 152, 153

151, 152, 153

151, 152, 153

151, 152, 153

151, 152, 153

151, 152, 153

151, 152, 153

151, 152, 153

151, 152, 153

151, 152, 153

151, 152, 153

151, 152, 153

151, 152, 153

151, 152, 153

151, 152, 153

151, 152, 153

151, 152, 153

151, 152, 153

151, 152, 153

151, 152, 153

151, 152, 153

151, 152, 153

151, 152, 153

151, 152, 153

151, 152, 153

151, 152, 153

151, 152, 153

151, 152, 153

151, 152, 153

151, 152, 153

151, 152, 153

151, 152, 153

151, 152, 153

151, 152, 153

151, 152, 153

151, 152, 153

151, 152, 153

151, 152, 153

151, 152, 153

151, 152, 153

151, 152, 153

151, 152, 153

151, 152, 153

151, 152, 153

151, 152, 153

151, 152, 153

151, 152, 153

151, 152, 153

151, 152, 153

151, 152, 153

151, 152, 153

151, 152, 153

151, 152, 153

151, 152, 153

151, 152, 153

151, 152, 153

151, 152, 153

151, 152, 153

151, 152, 153

151, 152, 153

151, 152, 153

151, 152, 153

WORCESTERSHIRE

NORTHAMPTONSHIRE 2

Worcestershire Match drawn.

WORCESTERSHIRE 23
V M Gwynne & Phillips & Suggs

V J Wells & Wood

S F Smith & C. Kilian

D. Mackay & B. Suggs

P. A. Nixon & S. B. Kilian

A. Hobb run out

I. S. Smith & B. Suggs

J. M. Dalin & S. Phillips

G. Williamson run out

G. M. Smith & S. Kilian

M. T. Bennett run out

Extras (10.11, 18, 102)

Total (38.2 overs)

151, 152, 153

151, 152, 153

151, 152, 153

151, 152, 153

151, 152, 153

151, 152, 153

151, 152, 153

151, 152, 153

151, 152, 153

151, 152, 153

151, 152, 153

151, 152, 153

151, 152, 153

151, 152, 153

151, 152, 153

151, 152, 153

151, 152, 153

151, 152, 153

151, 152, 153

151, 152, 153

151, 152, 153

151, 152, 153

151, 152, 153

151, 152, 153

151, 152, 153

151, 152, 153

151, 152, 153

151, 152, 153

151, 152, 153

151, 152, 153

151, 152, 153

151, 152, 153

151, 152, 153

151, 152, 153

151, 152, 153

151, 152, 153

151, 152, 153

151, 152, 153

151, 152, 153

151, 152, 153

151, 152, 153

151, 152, 153

151, 152, 153

151, 152, 153

151, 152, 153

151, 152, 153

151, 152, 153

151, 152, 153

151, 152, 153

151, 152, 153

151, 152, 153

151, 152, 153

151, 152, 153

151, 152, 153

151, 152, 153

151, 152, 153

151, 152, 153

151, 152, 153

151, 152, 153

151, 152, 153

151, 152, 153

151, 152, 153

151, 152, 153

151, 152, 153

151, 152, 153

151, 152, 153

151, 152, 153

151, 152, 153

151, 152, 153

151, 152, 153

151, 152, 153

151, 152, 153

SUSSEX

SOMERSET 4

Sussex Match drawn.

SUSSEX 23
V M Gwynne & Phillips & Suggs

V J Wells & Wood

S F Smith & C. Kilian

D. Mackay & B. Suggs

P. A. Nixon & S. B. Kilian

A. Hobb run out

I. S. Smith & B. Suggs

J. M. Dalin & S. Phillips

G. Williamson run out

G. M. Smith & S. Kilian

M. T. Bennett run out

Extras (10.11, 18, 102)

Total (38.2 overs)

151, 152, 153

151, 152, 153

151, 152, 153

151, 152, 153

151, 152, 153

151, 152, 153

151, 152, 153

151, 152, 153

151, 152, 153

151, 152, 153

151, 152, 153

151, 152, 153

151, 152, 153

151, 152, 153

151, 152, 153

151, 152, 153

151, 152, 153

151, 152, 153

151, 152, 153

151, 152, 153

151, 152, 153

151, 152, 153

151, 152, 153

151, 152, 153

151, 152, 153

151, 152, 153

151, 152, 153

151, 152, 153

151, 152, 153

151, 152, 153

151, 152, 153

151, 152, 153

151, 152, 153

151, 152, 153

151, 152, 153

151, 152, 153

151, 152, 153

151, 152, 153

151, 152, 153

151, 152, 153

151, 152, 153

151, 152, 153

151, 152, 153

151, 152, 153

151, 152, 153

151, 152, 153

151, 152, 153

151, 152, 153

151, 152, 153

151, 152, 153

151, 152, 153

151, 152, 153

151, 152, 153

151, 152, 153

151, 152, 153

151, 152, 153

Slogger

A side-on glance at cricket



The Ministry of Silly Names XI
But they wish they'd been a Smith

Haircuts 100

No. 7 Peter Kirsten

Profile: Kirsten was the first cricketer to have a full head of hair. He is a left-handed batsman and a right-handed bowler. He played for England in 1974 and 1975. He is now a coach at the England Cricket Board.

Profile: Kirsten was the first cricketer to have a full head of hair. He is a left-handed batsman and a right-handed bowler. He played for England in 1974 and 1975. He is now a coach at the England Cricket Board.

Gratuitous Graphic

The Way They Wish We Were

So Lancashire find spectators in "full body suits" too tasteless. Perhaps they'd rather they turned up looking like this.



Six steps to Devon



A... a feeling common among old-style cricketers. It is a feeling that the game is a bit of a joke. It is a feeling that the game is a bit of a joke. It is a feeling that the game is a bit of a joke.

Everything

you wanted to know

but were too polite to ask about

The B&H Cup

Key questions: R.P.

Sunderland's answer: Yes

Please. After Saturday's 27th

Lord's final, the other (boom)

boom) will be scattered over

the Green Gate black and

white morning. Herein

only know the cumulative

havoc on technique

wrought by this youngest

and most redundant of the

country's one-day fixtures.

Classes to blame? The

rules themselves? The

competition? Three points for

a win plus bonus points for

bowling opponents out (abolished after one season)?

Provided first instance of a

major quarter-final settled

by the toss of a coin? The

provision of a major

quarter-final settled by a

bowler's

earliest field? The truly

explosive

stuff has

come from

non-Anglo-

best bowling

(Vernon Daniel, Jeff

Thompson and

Andrews)

And, most

decisive of

(Simon Fotherby)

Postscript: A final

(Steve Jackson), most

thrilling fixture in a

final (Aravinda de Silva)

and greatest century

(Malcolm Marshall)

The W&H

bowling, facing Essex's John

Lever, the most prolific

bowler in B&H since, not to

mention eight league

titles, makes room to

backyard politics

between Essex and

Lancashire. The 100

odd points between

West XI (Lancashire, 199)

must win by 10 runs

Monday, 19th

Mundis, 19th

Mundis, 19th

Mundis, 19th

Mundis, 19th

Mundis, 19th

Mundis, 19th

Mundis, 19th

Mundis, 19th

Mundis, 19th

Mundis, 19th

Mundis, 19th

Mundis, 19th

Mundis, 19th

Mundis, 19th

Mundis, 19th

Mundis, 19th

Mundis, 19th

Mundis, 19th

Mundis, 19th

Mundis, 19th

Mundis, 19th

Mundis, 19th

Mundis, 19th

Mundis, 19th

Big shout

Murmurs from

the outfield

"The outfield is a bit of a

mess. It is a bit of a

mess. It is a bit of a

mess. It is a bit of a

mess. It is a bit of a

mess. It is a bit of a

mess. It is a bit of a

mess. It is a bit of a

mess. It is a bit of a

mess. It is a bit of a

mess. It is a bit of a

mess. It is a bit of a

mess. It is a bit of a

mess. It is a bit of a

mess. It is a bit of a

mess. It is a bit of a

mess. It is a bit of a

mess. It is a bit of a

mess. It is a bit of a

mess. It is a bit of a

mess. It is a bit of a

mess. It is a bit of a

mess. It is a bit of a

mess. It is a bit of a

mess. It is a bit of a

mess. It is a bit of a

mess. It is a bit of a

mess. It is a bit of a

mess. It is a bit of a

mess. It is a bit of a

mess. It is a bit of a

mess. It is a bit of a

mess. It is a bit of a

mess. It is a bit of a

Boxing

Bugner picks up title in old-age farce

John Rawling

THE shaming memory of Joe Bugner's farcical World Boxing Federation heavyweight title fight against James "Bone-crusher" Smith will not be the three minutes of action before Smith retired injured but the crude attempt made to reset his dislocated right shoulder before he quit.

The 45-year-old former World Boxing Association champion's face contorted with pain as a ringside doctor and a hefty cornerman wrenched at his arm, while the pro-Bugner Australian crowd howled its derision.

When Smith indicated he was unable to go on, Bugner, 31 years after he turned professional, was proclaimed world heavyweight champion by a governing body which had little credibility before and surely has none now.

At 48 Bugner will claim to be the oldest world heavyweight champion of all time but the accolade is the ultimate insult to those who have gone before. Jersey Joe Walcott was 37 when he beat Ezzard Charles to win the title in 1951; George Foreman was 45 when he defeated Michael Moorer in 1994 to win the WBA and International Boxing Federation versions of the title. Bugner's "achievement" should not be mentioned in the same breath.

Bugner was given a hero's welcome as he entered the ring in the Gold Coast resort of Carrara. Aussie Joe, who became an Australian citizen in 1986, has little relevance to the world championship heavyweight scene yet a gullible Australian public is apparently willing to shell out for anything.

Smith had been first into the ring, his once intimidating physique now halved to a grotesque 20st 2lb. He sported voluminous shorts pulled way above where a waist once was and the pecs looked at though they would have benefited from a Wonderbra. At least Bugner seemed in shape though, at 18st 9lb, his form was not exactly sylvan.

Smith started slowly, like a man who knew he would be knackered running 50 yards to the post office to pick up his welfare cheque. He waddled to centre ring and aimed two clubbing right hands at Bugner's head.

The former British, European and Commonwealth champion was dull at his best but always had a good defence. Not now. He staggered back and looked ready to be taken. Smith may be fat and slow but he sensed a winning opportunity and tried to throw another right hand.

But three punches proved one too many, and his shoulder was damaged in the seemingly massive effort required to throw the third.

So Bugner survived and the "fight" was over. Next, the spotlight on the oldies circuit will switch to Foreman's meeting with another former champion Larry Holmes in the autumn. It will be dreadful. But millions of dollars will be at stake, which proves, if nothing else, that somebody out there actually likes this rubbish.

Rugby Union

International match: South Africa 18 England 0

Woodward fears Twickenham axe



Bogged down... Matt Dawson makes a clearance kick in the mud at Newlands. His performance confirmed his long-term claim to the England captaincy

MIKE HUTCHINGS

Outspoken England coach thinks he may have gone too far on tour

Robert Armstrong in Cape Town

CLIVE Woodward fears for his future. The England coach believes a hostile group of Rugby Football Union members are lobbying for his dismissal due to his scathing criticism of the southern hemisphere tour.

"Those people who agreed to England playing a Test in Auckland on Saturday and Cape Town the next must have had a couple of ginns too many when they took that decision," said a bitter Woodward after England's seventh successive tour defeat.

Woodward's anxieties may

be related more to his own win-loss ratio than his recent damning reference to the "thick-heads" of the RFU. Since his appointment 10 months ago the England coach has guided his team to three wins in 15 games, the kind of failure rate that tends to prompt drastic changes in personnel.

The fact that England's "tour from hell" has been made with, in effect, a B squad of relatively inexperienced players, 16 first-choice men being injured or unavailable, is bound to count in Woodward's favour, though arguably he did not get the best from limited resources.

In some ways England's 18-0 defeat by the Springboks at

Newlands was their most impressive performance, certainly in commitment and organisation; at least their 76-0 defeat by Australia seemed in comparison merely a bad dream.

If Woodward were to go, John Mitchell, the assistant coach who has won the respect of the players, would be the most likely replacement given a shortage of credible candidates at home and abroad. However, Mitchell and the RFU would have to negotiate his release from a long-term contract with Sale, who would demand substantial compensation.

Whether the progressively minded Woodward has guarded his back with suffi-

cient care must be open to doubt. Like his main RFU supporters, Fran Cotton and Cliff Brittle, he has a talent for making political enemies which frequently overshadows his creative value to English rugby.

It may be difficult to convince the RFU hawks that Woodward's record has more merit than statistics might suggest. Apart from the South African Test, in which fluent movement was impossible due to torrential rain, England have tried to play ball in hand, developing a fresh style that gives expression to the skills of a young enthusiastic squad. Static set-piece rugby has been banished.

Perhaps Woodward's great-

est achievement has been his willingness to fast-track promising youngsters. The latest example, Paul Sampson, the 20-year-old Wasps wing, will have benefited greatly from making his debut against the Springboks.

Josh Lewsey, the 23-year-old fly-half, is another who has had to grow up quickly in his three Tests.

Nick Mallett, the Springbok coach, put a brave face on his side's plodding performance. "England were lucky they did not meet us on a dry pitch, otherwise we would have put 50 points on them," declared Mallett with a one-eyed awareness that suggested he had just been watching a video fantasy game.

Woodward picked up on Mallett's ill-chosen remark. "It's nice to know the Springbok coach thinks there is a point difference between the sides; we'll store that in our memory bank until we meet at Twickenham in December," he promised. Mallett

had no need to depart from statistics — South Africa won the line-outs 25-6 and denied England a single scoring chance in the final half.

Even so, Woodward was entitled to claim that the Springboks seemed no more than mere mortals in most phases of forward play. Ben Clarke and Tony Diprose lent genuine credibility to England's work around the fringes, while the front-row forwards, especially Phil Vickery, went from strength to strength.

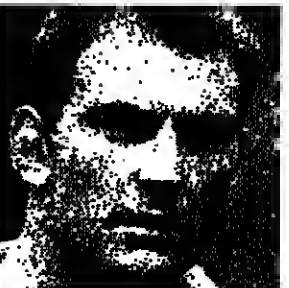
Once again Matt Dawson, the tour captain, imposed his authority at scrum-half, at one stage even driving Gary Teichmann into touch to save a probable try. Woodward, though, did not say whether Dawson will keep the captaincy when England play World Cup qualifying games against Holland and Italy at Huddersfield in November. Dawson was unable to prevent Joost van der Westhuizen from charging down an attempted clearance by Lew-

sey to gain a 21st-minute lead with a score in the left corner.

The Springboks' indisputable quality was shown when the ball was cleared from a scrum on the left, allowing Henry Honiball to put Stefan Terblanche over in the right.

Percy Montgomery put the game beyond reach with a couple of short-range penalty goals. Certainly England flinched brightly — but will that be sufficient to keep the volatile Woodward in his job?

SCORERS: South Africa: Try: Van der Westhuizen, Terblanche, Conserwoud; Conversion: Montgomery. Penalties: Montgomery 2. **SOUTH AFRICA:** Montgomery (W Province); Terblanche (Gdoland); Erasmus (Gdoland); Honiball (Gdoland); Van der Westhuizen (Gdoland); Kooze (Gdoland); Le Roux (Gdoland); Delfino (Gdoland); Garvey, Andrews (both Natal); Gite (Blue Bulls); Erasmus (Gdoland); Botha (Free State); Tackmann (Gdoland). **ENGLAND:** Perry (Bath); Bruce (Richmond); Beal (Northampton); Barendse (Sale); Sampson (Wasps); Mallett (Leeds); Vickery (Saracens); Dawson (Northampton); Clark, Gossnell (both Leicester); Vickery, Fidler, Stone (all Gloucester); Clarke (Richmond); Sandercock (Sale); Erasmus (Gdoland); New Zealand).



Dallaglio... position at risk



Woodward... new thinking

Absent Dallaglio slates trip as threat grows to his place and captaincy

ENGLAND should never have embarked on such a "ludicrous" tour, Lawrence Dallaglio, the captain who missed the tour through injury, said yesterday. "We sent people down under who couldn't get a regular game in their club teams," the Wasps flanker said.

"No other country in rugby history has under-

taken an itinerary such as England have done in the past year," he said.

"This tour should never have taken place," Dallaglio said in a Sunday newspaper. "The fact that 15 first-choice England players were not available tells the tale of the ridiculous nature of English rugby."

Dallaglio is in danger of losing the England cap-

taincy next season after Matt Dawson's emergence as an outstanding leader on the southern hemisphere tour. The British Lions scrum-half's credentials received support from the coach Clive Woodward after Saturday's Test against South Africa.

"I've got to know Matt very well on this trip," Woodward said. "You pick

your team first, then your captain — and by not coming on this trip, Lawrence has passed over the captaincy and his No. 6 shirt."

"The two stars on this trip have been the captain and the No. 6 Ben Clarke. "But we all know Lawrence is a world-class player, and he knows the situation. "Choosing between them

won't cause me a problem — for both players, their main priority is to be in the England team."

Woodward insisted that England had gained a lot from their five-week expedition and said it was essential that they win their next game — against Australia at Twickenham in November — to "get things back on track".

Lowest prices for the highest specs. No contest.

DELL DIMENSION™ XPS R400

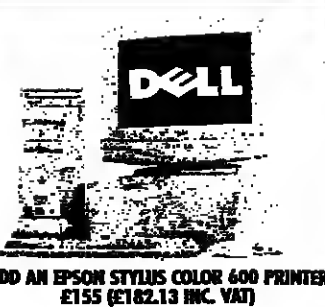
- INTEL® PENTIUM® II PROCESSOR 400MHZ
- INTEL® 440BX AGPSET
- 512KB INTERNAL CACHE
- 4GB HIGH PERFORMANCE 100MHZ SDRAM
- 11.5" HD MONITOR
- 3.2GB IDE HARD DRIVE
- 3.5" FLOPPY DRIVE
- 24 X MODULAR CD-ROM DRIVE AND 3.5" FLOPPY DRIVE
- EXTRA HIGH PERFORMANCE 128-BIT PCI GRAPHICS CONTROLLER WITH 2MB VIDEO RAM
- INFRARED COMMUNICATION PORT (IRDA 1.1 COMPATIBLE)
- 2000MHz VIDEO SUPPORT
- 7 CARDS/PCMCIA TYPE II SLOTS OR 1 TYPE III
- INTEGRATED SYNAPTICS TOUCHPAD
- USB PORT
- LITHIUM ION "INTELLIGENT" BATTERY
- BIOS/OS/PC OFFICE 97 SMALL BUSINESS EDITION
- EXECUTIVE CARRY CASE

£1,599 (£1,914.08 inc. VAT)

DELL INSPIRON™ 3200 D233 XT

- MOBILE INTEL® PENTIUM® II PROCESSOR 233MHZ
- 13.3" XGA (1024X768) TFT COLOUR DISPLAY
- 32MB RAM
- 512KB HIGH PERFORMANCE CACHE
- 3.2GB ATA-33 HARD DRIVE
- 24 X MODULAR CD-ROM DRIVE AND 3.5" FLOPPY DRIVE
- EXTRA HIGH PERFORMANCE 128-BIT PCI GRAPHICS CONTROLLER WITH 2MB VIDEO RAM
- INFRARED COMMUNICATION PORT (IRDA 1.1 COMPATIBLE)
- 2000MHz VIDEO SUPPORT
- 7 CARDS/PCMCIA TYPE II SLOTS OR 1 TYPE III
- INTEGRATED SYNAPTICS TOUCHPAD
- USB PORT
- LITHIUM ION "INTELLIGENT" BATTERY
- BIOS/OS/PC OFFICE 97 SMALL BUSINESS EDITION
- EXECUTIVE CARRY CASE

£1,699 (£2,031.58 inc. VAT)



Both these systems featured here are simply unbeatable. The Dell Dimension XPS

R400 is a highly featured multimedia powerhouse. And how can you miss this

incredible notebook offer. The Dell Inspiron 3200 D233XT is packed with all the

features you demand from a mobile PC. So look no further. Pick up the phone or get online to the

world's largest direct PC manufacturer** at

www.dell.com/uk/buydell. You won't find

better specs for less.

*Systems with Windows 98 to be delivered after scheduled

Microsoft release date of June 25th subject to availability.

**Source: IDC

TALE DIRECT TO THE NUMBER

08701524610

10 lines 24 hours

www.dell.com/uk/buydell



Motorcycling

Crafar wins but Doohan has grip on title

Peter Nichols on new challenges to the old order at Donington in the British Grand Prix

CONSIDERING how many races Mick Doohan has won in the past few years, Simon Crafar made beating him here look alarmingly easy.

The New Zealander, in his first full season of grand prix racing — he has spent the past four years in Superbike racing, while Doohan has spent them winning the 500cc title four times in a row — had such an emphatic victory that it made the whole adventure somewhat monotonous.

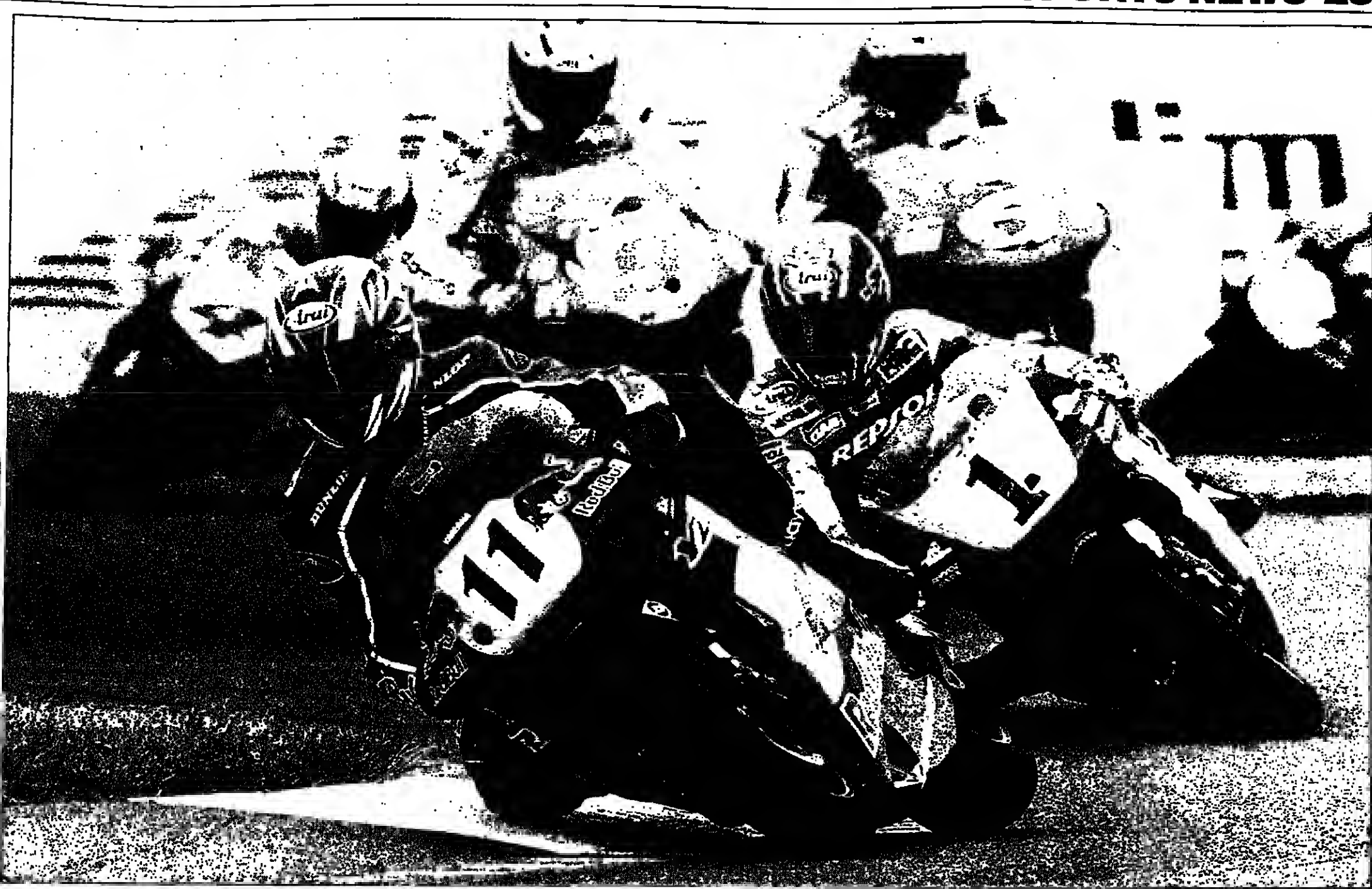
Afterwards Crafar, who had started from pole position and led from the fifth lap, looked stunned. "I certainly did not expect it to go the way it did today, because at the start I was ready to race hard all the way," he said.

"I still can't really believe it. All I could think was that Mick was having trouble getting past someone."

Mick wasn't. The 33-year-old Australian had gone past the early leader Norick Abe as smoothly as Crafar, 29, had done a couple of laps earlier.

Still only seven laps into the 30-lap race, a Herculean tussle had looked likely. It failed to happen and Doohan attributed this to his tyre selection: he had chosen a harder compound in the belief that the clouds would roll away after the start and the track would warm up. The clouds remained stubbornly unaware of the Repsol Honda team strategy and stayed where they were. The tyres did not warm up and the grip was not there till the race was all but done and dusted.

"I knew within a lap of passing Abe; the harder I tried the slower I went," said Doohan. "We were in totally different races today."



Turn-up... the newcomer Simon Crafar leads the four-times world champion Mick Doohan

PHOTOGRAPH BY MARTIN CLEVER

lately unaware of the Repsol Honda team strategy and stayed where they were. The tyres did not warm up and the grip was not there till the race was all but done and dusted.

"I knew within a lap of passing Abe; the harder I tried the slower I went," said Doohan. "We were in totally different races today."

Coming second is not such bad news for the Australian. Max Biaggi, the championship leader, could manage only sixth and so converted a three-point lead into a seven-point deficit. And when Doohan gets a grip on a championship he tends not to relinquish it.

Crafar is too far back in the title race to have any ambitions in that direction.

He can, however, take great credit for stopping Yamaha's not. Since Wayne Rainey took the title from 1990-92 the company have struggled; you have to go back to October 1996 to find a grand prix victory in any class.

Apart from victory for Steve Webster in the sidecars the best British result came in the 250cc race. For

once, here was a British rider who did not need binoculars to see the podium. Jason Vincent did not quite get on it, but in the final eight laps of the 27 he chased the three bikes closest to him with such intent that a champagne dousing was a real possibility.

Vincent, his privateer TSR-Honda not quite able to match the factory bikes

for power, finished sixth but was barely a second behind the third-placed Stefano Perugini.

"I've proved that, if I get the rise, a British lad can get to the top," said Vincent.

The race was won by Loris Capirossi, waved through by his fellow Aprilia rider Tetsuya Harada on the final lap. Harada, who

maintains his lead in the championship, was responding not to team orders but to a spluttering engine. Japan's Kazuto Sakata won the 125cc class to give himself a handy cushion of 46 points over Marco Melandri in the title race. Melandri, the 15-year-old Italian, followed his victory in Assen last week with a fourth place.

It rather put into perspective the performance of Britain's own 15-year-old, Leon Haslam, son of the former racer Ron, did exceptionally well to complete his first grand prix in 17th place, especially given that he was nudged off the track on the opening lap. Haslam is a real prospect. Melandri is without doubt a wonderkid.

Golf

Carter's nerve holds for play-off win over Monty

Mark Garrod at Durdley's Glen

DAVID CARTER won the Murphy's Irish Open in dramatic fashion here south of Dublin yesterday, beating the European No. 1 Colin Montgomerie at the first hole of a sudden-death play-off after finishing on a six-under-par 27.

The 26-year-old from Chesterfield looked to have thrown away the chance of a maiden European tour victory when he lost a four-shot lead with six holes to play. But after going into the water at the last — a hole he needed to par to win the £153,000 first prize — he sank a 20-foot bogey putt to force the play-off with a 71.

Montgomerie, who shot a 68 to set the challenge to Carter, was looking for a third successive victory in the event and went to the play-off holes as firm favourite. However, he pulled his drive into the rough and, in trying to lay up short of the pond, the club twisted in his hands and his ball rolled agonisingly into the water.

There was still a chance for the 35-year-old Scot but, after taking a penalty drop, he left his pitch 25 feet short and, when he missed the putt, he conceded, not asking Carter to take any of the three putts he had for.

"I'm lucky to be here and that's something I don't forget," said a jubilant and emotional Carter, whose life was saved by emergency brain surgery in Dubai last year.

after contracting a virus. "I kept saying, 'Believe in yourself and when I had that putt to tie, I kept saying to myself, 'You're going to hole it.'"

Montgomerie found consolation in the fact that 11 days before the Open he is back at the top of the European Order of Merit, which he has won for the last five years.

Along with the joint overnight leader Barry Lane, Carter had bogeyed the 1st. But, while Lane struggled all day, Carter struck back immediately with a 30-foot putt at the 2nd. A pitch to three feet on the next and a birdie on the 5th, after his 45-foot eagle putt had lipped out, took him three clear and, when he pitched to six feet four holes later, the gap became four.

He saved a vital par on the 10th, pitching to a foot after a

bad drive, but the 471-yard 13th was always likely to be a crucial test of his nerve — and sadly he failed it, hitting into a stream with an iron off the tee and running up a double-bogey six.

He went back to three ahead with a pitch to three feet on the next but the 16th may haunt him for a long time. His drive found the sand and he tried to hit a wood for his second but carved it horribly into the heavy rough and his five-minute search was almost up when the ball was found. The resulting bogey left him only one stroke ahead of Montgomerie and after he saved par from a bunker at the 17th — splashing out to a foot — it came down to the last — and then, of course, to the play-off. — Press Association

Sport in brief

Football

Ian Wright will meet Arsenal's manager Arsène Wenger this week and the outcome may be his departure from Highbury. "I think it is good to explore different avenues," said the 34-year-old striker. "I still have a lot to offer and if it is not Arsenal it will have to be somewhere else."

"The club is moving in a different direction and I'm not sure I will be a focal point for too much longer. There are stories saying Nicolas Anelka is not happy, but I am sure Arsenal will make him happy and that he'll stay."

Athletics

Marion Devonish ran 10.15 seconds, the fastest 100 metres in Britain this year, in winning the first race in the Nivea Sprint Challenge in Bedford, writes Duncan Mackay. At the finish only 0.02sec covered the first four, with the Coventry runner sealing off Ian Mackie.

Kenya's world 3,000 metres record-holder Daniel Komen has denied rumours that he will not run in September's Commonwealth Games in Kuala Lumpur.

Triathlon

Britain's Andrew Johns, 24, enhanced his reputation by winning the European Championship at Velden, Austria, on Saturday, writes Peter Nichols. He was 25th after the 1.5km swim but the field regrouped on the 40km bike ride and he then produced an outstanding 10km run, of 30min 44sec, to snatch victory on the line. In the women's junior race Beth Thompson, who this year switched allegiance from Australia to Britain, had a comfortable win.

Table Tennis

Andrea Holt has taken over as No. 1 in the England women's rankings after Lisa Lomas's retirement. Holt will lead the national team next season in the European Women's League. Matthew Syed leads the men's ratings from Carl Fram.

Rowing

Fit Foster finds form to help cane Danes

Christopher Dodd at Henley

TIM FOSTER completed his comeback when Britain's four beat the Danish lightweight by three-quarters of a length in the Stewards' Challenge Cup on the final day of the Royal Regatta.

James Cracknell, Steve Redgrave, Matthew Pinsent and Foster had seen off the Olympic champions, the Oarsome Foursome from Australia, in Saturday's semi-final even though "in the excitement of the moment" Pinsent lifted a triumphant arm before his boat crossed the line.

There was no time for such gestures against the Danes, the world and Olympic champions in lightweight fours. Their stroke Victor Reddersen said: "We are happy they are not our real opponents."

The British four's win gave Redgrave his 17th Henley medal. The crew have been together for five weeks since Foster returned after injury and they go off on a winning note to next weekend's World Cup final in Lucerne, where another formidable Australian crew awaits.

Four first-class crews in the regatta's first invitation women's eights produced some sparkling racing. The Americans won a tight final against the British by a third of a length in 7min 55sec.

The German national eight, with the Cambridge Blues Marc Weber and Stefan Forster at stroke and seven, rowed the French down in the Grand. In the Ladies' Plate Harvard came from behind to beat Cambridge and Star, and in the Temple, Imperial College dealt the same treatment to University of Wales Col-

lege, Cardiff. Radley staged a brilliant rally to overhaul St Mary's Prep of the United States in the Princess Elizabeth and London RC chose the day their patron, Prince Philip, presented the prizes to defeat the old hands of Bowbridge BC by two thirds of a length in the Thames Cup.

The world sculling champion Jamie Coven wrestled the Diamonds off Greg Searle after the Briton was awarded a false start and led at the Barrier after the re-start. Searle never had a lead of more than half a length before the American took over at halfway. Searle challenged strongly along the enclosures but lost his title by 2/5 lengths.

Sweden's Maria Brandin won the women's sculls for the fifth time when she held off a sustained attack by Gina Douglas of Mercantile, Australia.

Chess

Adams eyes Kasparov title after German win

Leonard Barden

MICHAEL ADAMS became a contender for the world title yesterday when he shared first prize with 6/9 in the Dortmund Sparkassen Grandmasters, the strongest tournament to be held in Germany.

The result is likely to elevate him from No. 8 to No. 4 in the International Chess Federation (Fide) rankings, and confirms him as the western world's leading prospect.

Dortmund was billed as a showdown among challengers to the reigning Russian world champion Garry Kasparov

and Anatoly Karpov, neither of whom competed.

Six of the top 10 were there and Adams won three games — the most significant against India's Vishy Anand, who knocked him out in last year's Fide semi-final — and drew six. The 26-year-old Cornishman shared victory with Russia's Vlad Kramnik and Peter Svidler, Anand, the world challenger, and Kasparov's official challenger Alexei Shirov both failed to win a game.

Shirov trailed in last and his disastrous showing is sure to increase criticism that Kasparov, who arranges his own title contests in opposition to Fide, is taking on an opponent

who lacks credibility. But if Kasparov should have second thoughts, Adams might prove an able substitute.

Adams's approach to the game has in the past seemed too laid-back but now he has turned down both his place in this year's British championship and the leadership of the Slough team because competing against weaker domestic players might jeopardise his climb up the world rankings.

With Adams, Nigel Short and Matthew Sadler all in the world top 20 and in good form, England now look serious challengers to Russia in the next major event, the Olympiad in Elista in September.

Rookie McKay tames the Open wind

Elspeth Burnside at Blackwolf Run

RAISED on the fairways of Tnaherry, Mhairi McKay felt quite at home in the gusting winds that tormented so many of the field in the third round of the US Women's Open here in Wisconsin.

On a day when many of the elite struggled to stay on the right side of 80 — the world No. 1 Annika Sorenstam shot 79 and Laura Davies 78 — the 23-year-old Scottish rookie posted a 73, joint best of the day, to stand just one shot off the lead going into the final

round of her first major championship. Se Ri Pak, the 26-year-old Korean, led on 214, one over par, as she attempted to become the first player in eight years to win majors back to back. The youngster, who is often compared to Tiger Woods, won the McDonald's LPGA championship in May.

McKay shared second spot with Sweden's Liselotte Neumann, the 1986 champion and, at 32, a real veteran in such company, while there was another three-shot gap to the leading Americans Chris Johnson and the amateur Jenny Chuasiriporn.

McKay arrived here

claiming it would be a learning experience. No one, not even herself, could have envisaged that she would master the course so quickly.

"I'm loving every minute of it and having such fun," she said as she looked forward to playing alongside Pak in the final pair on the final day. "I've watched the US Open so many times on television and you dream about being in contention one day."

"The Open is the maximum test. The challenge, the atmosphere and the crowd. But, it's what you aim for all the years you're growing up playing golf. This is a week full of memo-

ries that I will cherish." McKay, a team-mate of Woods during four years at Stanford University in California, had an outstanding amateur career. She won Scottish and British girls' championships and played in two Curtis Cup matches.

But this season she has been a "Monday qualifier" — needing to earn her place in the main event by a good showing in the preliminary rounds.

She arrived in Wisconsin having played in eight events with a tie for 28th in a Californian tournament in March as her best finish and had banked less than \$14,000 (£2,500) before coming here.

Monty's always on course to relax with us.

When you're comfortable you can do anything.

Marriott Golf Breaks as recommended by Colin Montgomerie

For our brand new 1998/99 Golf Breaks brochure, call free on 0800 444 878.

ST. PIERRE • GOODWOOD PARK • FOREST OF ARDEN • BREADSALL PRIORY • DALMAHOY • TUDOR PARK • MEON VALLEY • HANBURY MANOR • HOLLINS HALL • COURSE OPENS SPRING 1999 • MANCHESTER • OPENS AUTUMN 1998 • COURSE OPENS SPRING 1999

Marriott

Racing

Ramsdens decide to quit training

Graham Rock on the reasons behind the winding up of a controversial partnership

THE decision of Lynda and Jack Ramsdens to retire at the end of the season came as no surprise to those close to them. The husband and wife training team had been contemplating a change for some time.

While Lynda has officially held the Jockey Club licence, first issued in 1986, Jack has been orchestrating the administration of the stable, and yesterday he said that training was simply not as much fun as it had been when the couple started 12 years earlier.

The Ramsdens have clashed with racing's authorities on several occasions. In 1991 they announced their intention to quit training but reversed their decision, having been persuaded to carry on by supportive owners.

Earlier this year they brought a successful libel action against the Sporting Life, who had alleged that Top Cees had not run on its merits in a Newmarket handicap three years ago. Mrs Ramsden was awarded £75,000 in damages, her husband £50,000.

"We've had enough. It's not that we're fed up with the Jockey Club or the stewards or anything like that, although the handicapper gives us a hard time," Jack explained.

"But the game is so much more competitive than when we started. It's getting harder, and more expensive."

"We have shared in a lot of horses in our yard. When we started you could go to the sales and buy a reasonable yearling colt for six to eight thousand guineas. Now the

same horse will cost fifty to sixty thousand.

"The market is much stronger with overseas buyers from, say, Hong Kong and Singapore, coming from countries where racing is properly structured financially. We don't want to spend the rest of our lives competing in the third division."

Over the years the Ramsdens have proved a successful team. Two years ago, Lynda sent out 56 winners, her husband sent out 56 winners, and they enjoyed Pattern race victories with Island Magic in the Solario Stakes in 1993 and Chilly Billy in the Guineas Stakes the following year.

"We started up to see if we would be any good at it, but it's not as much fun as it was seven or eight years ago. It was nothing to do with the fact that we had to go to Hamilton, Musselburgh or Catterick, but now I can't be bothered."

"The bureaucracy is increasing all the time. You find

you're on the phone from seven in the morning until lunchtime. If you're not enjoying it, there's no point in going on."

Brackenborough House Stables, near Thirsk, is now on the market. "We told the staff on Friday, and these things get out, so we confirmed it in public at Beverley that evening."

"We're not leaving racing. We've got mares, foals, and yearlings, and I expect we'll have about eight or 10 horses in training."

Ramsdens has not yet decided which trainer will be entrusted with the care of his team. "We'll probably do them around the country. I don't think we'll be using well-established trainers with very large numbers of horses."

We'll look at the younger trainers, smaller, with 30 or 40 horses and the ability to train every one of them properly."

One of the shrewdest gamblers found that the increasing burden of assisting his wife has restricted his tilt against the

dividend.

"Betting has always fascinated me. It always will. But over the past couple of years I've been able to devote less time to it, and it's had to take a bit of a back seat. I've missed things, which has been very annoying."

The Ramsdens are independently wealthy, and Jack stressed that they are not leaving as a reaction to the state of British racing.

"Of course racing needs more money, and I think the Tote is the only hope, really. It won't happen overnight, but it will in the long term. The process might take 50 years, but one day the pools will be big enough to have a decent bet without destroying the dividend."



Grey day... Frankie Dettori on his way to victory in the Eclipse

JULIAN HERBERT/ALLSPORT

Daylami puts himself on route for King George

Graham Rock

DAYLAMI will surely be among the favourites for the King George VI and Queen Elizabeth Diamond Stakes at Ascot later in the month following his victory in the Coral Eclipse at Sandown on Saturday when he defeated Faithful Son and Central Park to

give Godolphin a monopoly

of the finish. Last year's French 2,000 Guineas winner has yet to race beyond 10 furlongs, but both Frankie Dettori and Simon Crisford, Godolphin's racing manager, are confident that this resolute galloper will stay the extra quarter mile.

The stable will also be represented by Swain in

the championship race, and a pace-maker should ensure a strong test. Daylami, bought by Godolphin from the Aga Khan at the end of last season, was Dettori's first winner of the Group One race following several near misses. "I really wanted this one, my dad won the race on Wollon in 1976," he said.

Windsor tonight

GRAHAM ROCK	TOP FORM
8.35 Myrtle Ridge	Tal
7.05 Dutch Lad	Jasiah
7.35 Warming	Stables' Rice
8.05 Battle Laidlaw	Battle Laidlaw
8.35 Anthony Mon Amour	Derrydale
9.05 Chiswick	Chiswick

Figure-eight track of 15m, though only right-hand turns occur in races up to 1m10yds. Virtually straight 5f & 6f tracks. Bunting Good to firm. 4. Don't bet. 5. Top form rating. Draw: High best in 10-12. Seven day winners: 0.35 Tal, 0.35 Anthony Mon Amour. Figures in brackets after horse's name denote days since last outing. J. Juno.

6.35 CAGDOGAN ESTATES HANDICAP

1m 21.23.063 (17 declared)	SKY
1 (12) 4.0000 Zorro (12) 11m10yds 4-5-12	A. Dark
2 (14) 5.0000 Zorro (12) 11m10yds 4-5-12	A. Dark
3 (14) 5.0000 Zorro (12) 11m10yds 4-5-12	A. Dark
4 (14) 5.0000 Zorro (12) 11m10yds 4-5-12	A. Dark
5 (14) 5.0000 Zorro (12) 11m10yds 4-5-12	A. Dark
6 (14) 5.0000 Zorro (12) 11m10yds 4-5-12	A. Dark
7 (14) 5.0000 Zorro (12) 11m10yds 4-5-12	A. Dark
8 (14) 5.0000 Zorro (12) 11m10yds 4-5-12	A. Dark
9 (14) 5.0000 Zorro (12) 11m10yds 4-5-12	A. Dark
10 (14) 5.0000 Zorro (12) 11m10yds 4-5-12	A. Dark

Figures in brackets after horse's name denote days since last outing. J. Juno.

7.05 CORAL CLASSIFIED STAKES

1m 31.35.735 (47 declared)	SKY
1 (12) 4.0000 Zorro (12) 11m10yds 4-5-12	A. Dark
2 (14) 5.0000 Zorro (12) 11m10yds 4-5-12	A. Dark
3 (14) 5.0000 Zorro (12) 11m10yds 4-5-12	A. Dark
4 (14) 5.0000 Zorro (12) 11m10yds 4-5-12	A. Dark
5 (14) 5.0000 Zorro (12) 11m10yds 4-5-12	A. Dark
6 (14) 5.0000 Zorro (12) 11m10yds 4-5-12	A. Dark
7 (14) 5.0000 Zorro (12) 11m10yds 4-5-12	A. Dark
8 (14) 5.0000 Zorro (12) 11m10yds 4-5-12	A. Dark
9 (14) 5.0000 Zorro (12) 11m10yds 4-5-12	A. Dark
10 (14) 5.0000 Zorro (12) 11m10yds 4-5-12	A. Dark

Figures in brackets after horse's name denote days since last outing. J. Juno.

7.35 WOODHOUSE MANOR HCAP

1m 17yds 23.290 (18 declared)	SKY
1 (12) 4.0000 Zorro (12) 11m10yds 4-5-12	A. Dark
2 (14) 5.0000 Zorro (12) 11m10yds 4-5-12	A. Dark
3 (14) 5.0000 Zorro (12) 11m10yds 4-5-12	A. Dark
4 (14) 5.0000 Zorro (12) 11m10yds 4-5-12	A. Dark
5 (14) 5.0000 Zorro (12) 11m10yds 4-5-12	A. Dark
6 (14) 5.0000 Zorro (12) 11m10yds 4-5-12	A. Dark
7 (14) 5.0000 Zorro (12) 11m10yds 4-5-12	A. Dark
8 (14) 5.0000 Zorro (12) 11m10yds 4-5-12	A. Dark
9 (14) 5.0000 Zorro (12) 11m10yds 4-5-12	A. Dark
10 (14) 5.0000 Zorro (12) 11m10yds 4-5-12	A. Dark

Figures in brackets after horse's name denote days since last outing. J. Juno.

7.55 SUMMER SEASON NOVICE HANDICAP

2m 11yds 22.057 (4 declared)	SKY
1 (12) 4.0000 Zorro (12) 11m10yds 4-5-12	A. Dark
2 (14) 5.0000 Zorro (12) 11m10yds 4-5-12	A. Dark
3 (14) 5.0000 Zorro (12) 11m10yds 4-5-12	A. Dark
4 (14) 5.0000 Zorro (12) 11m10yds 4-5-12	A. Dark
5 (14) 5.0000 Zorro (12) 11m10yds 4-5-12	A. Dark
6 (14) 5.0000 Zorro (12) 11m10yds 4-5-12	A. Dark
7 (14) 5.0000 Zorro (12) 11m10yds 4-5-12	A. Dark
8 (14) 5.0000 Zorro (12) 11m10yds 4-5-12	A. Dark
9 (14) 5.0000 Zorro (12) 11m10yds 4-5-12	A. Dark
10 (14) 5.0000 Zorro (12) 11m10yds 4-5-12	A. Dark

Figures in brackets after horse's name denote days since last outing. J. Juno.

7.55 THREE PIGEONS PUBLIC HOUSE BARNSTABLE NOVICE CHASE

2m 11yds 22.819 (13 declared)	SKY
1 (12) 4.0000 Zorro (12) 11m10yds 4-5-12	A. Dark
2 (14) 5.0000 Zorro (12) 11m10yds 4-5-12	A. Dark
3 (14) 5.0000 Zorro (12) 11m10yds 4-5-12	A. Dark
4 (14) 5.0000 Zorro (12) 11m10yds 4-5-12	A. Dark
5 (14) 5.0000 Zorro (12) 11m10yds 4-5-12	A. Dark
6 (14) 5.0000 Zorro (12) 11m10yds 4-5-12	A. Dark
7 (14) 5.0000 Zorro (12) 11m10yds 4-5-12	A. Dark
8 (14) 5.0000 Zorro (12) 11m10yds 4-5-12	A. Dark
9 (14) 5.0000 Zorro (12) 11m10yds 4-5-12	A. Dark
10 (14) 5.0000 Zorro (12) 11m10yds 4-5-12	A. Dark

Figures in brackets after horse's name denote days since last outing. J. Juno.

7.55 THREE PIGEONS PUBLIC HOUSE BARNSTABLE NOVICE CHASE

2m 11yds 22.819 (13 declared)	SKY
1 (12) 4.0000 Zorro (12) 11m10yds 4-5-12	A. Dark
2 (14) 5.0000 Zorro (12) 11m10yds 4-5-12	A. Dark
3 (14) 5.0000 Zorro (12) 11m10yds 4-5-12	A. Dark
4 (14) 5.0000 Zorro (12) 11m10yds 4-5-12	A. Dark
5 (14) 5.0000 Zorro (12) 11m10yds 4-5-12	A. Dark
6 (14) 5.0000 Zorro (12) 11m10yds 4-5-12	A. Dark
7 (14) 5.0000 Zorro (12) 11m10yds 4-5-12	A. Dark
8 (14) 5.0000 Zorro (12) 11m10yds 4-5-12	A. Dark
9 (14) 5.0000 Zorro (12) 11m10yds 4-5-12	A. Dark
10 (14) 5.0000 Zorro (12) 11m10yds 4-5-12	A. Dark

Figures in brackets after horse's name denote days since last outing. J. Juno.

7.55 THREE PIGEONS PUBLIC HOUSE BARNSTABLE NOVICE CHASE

2m 11yds 22.819 (13 declared)	SKY
1 (12) 4.0000 Zorro (12) 11m10yds 4-5-12	A. Dark
2 (14) 5.0000 Zorro (12) 11m10yds 4-5-12	A. Dark
3 (14) 5.0000 Zorro (12) 11m10yds 4-5-12	A. Dark
4 (14) 5.0000 Zorro (12) 11m10yds 4-5-12	A. Dark
5 (14) 5.0000 Zorro (12) 11m10yds 4-5-12	A. Dark
6 (14) 5.0000 Zorro (12) 11m10yds 4-5-12	A. Dark
7 (14) 5.0000 Zorro (12) 11m10yds 4-5-12	A. Dark
8 (14) 5.0000 Zorro (12) 11m10yds 4-5-12	A. Dark
9 (14) 5.0000 Zorro (12) 11m10yds 4-5-12	A. Dark
10 (14) 5.0000 Zorro (12) 11m10yds 4-5-12	A. Dark

Figures in brackets after horse's name denote days since last outing. J. Juno.

7.55 THREE PIGEONS PUBLIC HOUSE BARNSTABLE NOVICE CHASE

2m 11yds 22.819 (13 declared)	SKY
1 (12) 4.0000 Zorro (12) 11m10yds 4-5-12	A. Dark
2 (14) 5.0000 Zorro (12) 11m10yds 4-5-12	A. Dark
3 (14) 5.0000 Zorro (12) 11m10yds 4-5-12	A. Dark
4 (14) 5.0000 Zorro (12) 11m10yds 4-5-12	A. Dark
5 (14) 5.0000 Zorro (12) 11m10yds 4-5-12	A. Dark
6 (14) 5.0000 Zorro (12) 11m10yds 4-5-12	A. Dark
7 (14) 5.0000 Zorro (12) 11m10yds 4-5-12	A. Dark
8 (14) 5.0000 Zorro (12) 11m10yds 4-5-12	A. Dark
9 (14) 5.0000 Zorro (12) 11m10yds 4-5-12	A. Dark
10 (14) 5.0000 Zorro (12) 11m10yds 4-5-12	A. Dark

Figures in brackets after horse's name denote days since last outing. J. Juno.

8.05 MAIDEN STAKES 2YO

1m 21.23.063 (17 declared)	SKY
1 (12) 4.0000 Zorro (12) 11m10yds 4-5-12	A. Dark
2 (14) 5.0000 Zorro (12) 11m10yds 4-5-12	A. Dark
3 (14) 5.0000 Zorro (12) 11m10yds 4-5-12	A. Dark
4 (14) 5.0000 Zorro (12) 11m10yds 4-5-12	A. Dark
5 (14) 5.0000 Zorro (12) 11m10yds 4-5-12	A. Dark
6 (14) 5.0000 Zorro (12) 11m10yds 4-5-12	A. Dark
7 (14) 5.0000 Zorro (12) 11m10yds 4-5-12	A. Dark
8 (14) 5.0000 Zorro (12) 11m10yds 4-5-12	A. Dark
9 (14) 5.0000 Zorro (12) 11m10yds 4-5-12	A. Dark
10 (14) 5.0000 Zorro (12) 11m10yds 4-5-12	A. Dark

Figures in brackets after horse's name denote days since last outing. J. Juno.

8.05 MAIDEN STAKES 2YO

1m 21.23.063 (17 declared)	SKY
1 (12) 4.0000 Zorro (12) 11m10yds 4-5-12	A. Dark
2 (14) 5.0000 Zorro (12) 11m10yds 4-5-12	A. Dark
3 (14) 5.0000 Zorro (12) 11m10yds 4-5-12	A. Dark
4 (14) 5.0000 Zorro (12) 11m10yds 4-5-12	A. Dark
5 (14) 5.0000 Zorro (12) 11m10yds 4-5-12	A. Dark
6 (14) 5.0000 Zorro (12) 11m10yds 4-5-12	A. Dark
7 (14) 5.0000 Zorro (12) 11m10yds 4-5-12	A. Dark
8 (14) 5.0000 Zorro (12) 11m10yds 4-5-12	A. Dark
9 (14) 5.0000 Zorro (12) 11m10yds 4-5-12	A. Dark
10 (14) 5.0000 Zorro (12) 11m10yds 4-5-12	A. Dark

Figures in brackets after horse's name denote days since last outing. J. Juno.

8.05 MAIDEN STAKES 2YO

1m 21.23.063 (17 declared)	SKY
1 (12) 4.0000 Zorro (12) 11m10yds 4-5-12	A. Dark
2 (14) 5.0000 Zorro (12) 11m10yds 4-5-12	A. Dark
3 (14) 5.0000 Zorro (12) 11m10yds 4-5-12	A. Dark
4 (14) 5.0000 Zorro (12) 11m10yds 4-5-12	A. Dark
5 (14) 5.0000 Zorro (12) 11m10yds 4-5-12	A. Dark
6 (14) 5.0000 Zorro (12) 11m10yds 4-5-12	A. Dark
7 (14) 5.0000 Zorro (12) 11m10yds 4-5-12	A. Dark
8 (14) 5.0000 Zorro (12) 11m10yds 4-5-12	A. Dark
9 (14) 5.0000 Zorro (12) 11m10yds 4-5-12	A. Dark
10 (14) 5.0000 Zorro (12) 11m10yds 4-5-12	A. Dark

Figures in brackets after horse's name denote days since last outing. J. Juno.

8.05 MAIDEN STAKES 2YO

1m 21.23.063 (17 declared)	SKY
1 (12) 4.0000 Zorro (12) 11m10yds 4-5-12	A. Dark
2 (14) 5.0000 Zorro (12) 11m10yds 4-5-12	A. Dark
3 (14) 5.0000 Zorro (12) 11m10yds 4-5-12	A. Dark
4 (14) 5.0000 Zorro (12) 11m10yds 4-5-12	A. Dark
5 (14) 5.0000 Zorro (12) 11m10yds 4-5-12	A. Dark
6 (14) 5.0000 Zorro (12) 11m10yds 4-5-12	A. Dark
7 (14) 5.0000 Zorro (12) 11m10yds 4-5-12	A. Dark
8 (14) 5.0000 Zorro (12) 11m10yds 4-5-12	A. Dark
9 (14) 5.0000 Zorro (12) 11m10yds 4-5-12	A. Dark
10 (14) 5.0000 Zorro (12) 11m10yds 4-5-12	A. Dark

Figures in brackets after horse's name denote days since last outing. J. Juno.

8.05 MAIDEN STAKES 2YO

1m 21.23.063 (17 declared)	SKY
1 (12) 4.0000 Zorro (12) 11m10yds 4-5-12	A. Dark
2 (14) 5.0000 Zorro (12) 11m10yds 4-5-12	A. Dark
3 (14) 5.0000 Zorro (12) 11m10yds 4-5-12	A. Dark
4 (14) 5.0000 Zorro (12) 11m10yds 4-5-12	A. Dark
5 (14) 5.0000 Zorro (12) 11m10yds 4-5-12	A. Dark
6 (14) 5.0000 Zorro (12) 11m10yds 4-5-12	A. Dark
7 (14) 5.0000 Zorro (12) 11m10yds 4-5-12	A. Dark
8 (14) 5.0000 Zorro (12) 11m10yds 4-5-12	A. Dark
9 (14) 5.0000 Zorro (12) 11m10yds 4-5-12	A. Dark
10 (14) 5.0000 Zorro (12) 11m10yds 4-5-12	A. Dark

Figures in brackets after horse's name denote days since last outing. J. Juno.

8.05 MAIDEN STAKES 2YO

3	332-3	George Malmgren (19) 0-1	10-10-5	A. Rubin	25
4	PA31-3	Malmgren (19) 0-1	10-10-5	V. Slaty	25
5	332-3	Hoford (6) 10-5	5-10-5	V. Slaty	25
6	332-3	Bright-Eclipse (19) 0-1	10-5-10-5	J. Murphy	25
7	003-1	Little Girl (1) 5-10-5	5-10-5	T. J. Priest	25
8	SOF-0	Le Grand Smoother (19) 0-1	5-10-5	J. Murphy	25
9	4-10-2				
10	0205-5	Plutarchy Lady (005) A Snowy 5-10-0	0-1	C. Gammell	27
11	0205-5	Plutarchy Lady (005) 1 Snowy 5-10-0	0-1	C. Gammell	27
12	003-0	OPPOP: Flying Arrow (10) 5 Knight 8-10-0	0-0	Sigale Mitchell	27

Betting: 7-2 Master Minded, Little Girl, 4-1 Gauri Diamonds, 5-1 Bright-Eclipse, 6-1
It's Walker, 10-1 Malmgren, 12-1 Le Grand Smoother.

PARTING SHOT

At a stretch... not only the ponies needed grooming for action in the National Women's Polo Tournament at Ascot on Saturday, where the teams included Ascot Park Allheads and Rutland Rockets

Photograph by Martin Godwin



Flash of folly for heeding

SCREEN BREAK

Martin Kelner

THANK goodness Ally McCoist was on hand to provide specialist comment when Argentina's Ortega appeared to fello the Dutch goalkeeper in the World Cup quarter-final. "Aye, he's put the head on him," pronounced Ally wisely as he studied a replay.

Nobody at Fifa appears to have the Glaswegian's understanding of the difference between genuine malice and what Ron Atkinson might call "handbags at 10 paces". There has to be a qualitative difference between "putting the head" on someone and, say, casually flicking your leg up at an opponent.

Still harassed off at the Beckham sending-off? You bet I am. I reject the line that England's absence from the World Cup is somehow a good thing in some liberal international relations kind of way, as I do the thousands of correspondents who spew filth on to the Beckham bulletin boards on the Internet.

Within minutes of the end of Tuesday's match the Net was full of the most unbelievable, one of the few repeatable messages being from an Arsenal fan, who lamented, "Thanks for ruining my summer, you selfish self-centred sell-out. We had a barbecue arranged for Saturday, and now nothing." Call me old-fashioned but anyone who cannot enjoy a hot dog while watching Germany get beaten 3-0 does not know what fun is.

In any case, if you are following the tournament on TV it is entirely possible to ignore the fact that England are out of the competition.

You know that hoary old tale, which surfaced most recently as a sub-plot in *The Full Monty*, where an executive loses his highly paid job but cannot face telling his wife? He pretends nothing has happened, dresses in his business suit as normal every morning and leaves home at the usual time as if he were still in a job.

Well, the World Cup has

been a little like that this week. The commentators continued to support our lads right through the quarter-finals in a blatant attempt to convince us that English football is still very much a going concern in this World Cup.

When Numan was sent off against Argentina, Barry Davies pronounced: "The question now is, are Holland as good as England?" — a reference no doubt to our heroic second-round victory over Argentina when reduced to 10 men. Remember that?

Back in the real world, though, Davies's rhetorical question surely missed the point that, if Holland did turn out to be "as good as England", they would be beaten on penalties and be going home to tend the tulips instead of looking forward to a semi-final against Brazil.

Still, the winning goal by Dennis Bergkamp — Arsenal's Dennis Bergkamp — is regularly known in commentary — was another glorious English triumph, according to daffy David Platt.

"A lot of English people will be delighted that Holland have won," he said. "We have a lot in common with Holland, and are very proud of the way they play." On what grounds exactly we could take pride in the Dutch victory he never specified. Maybe it was just a "flash of stupidity" on his part, the phrase he memorably used to describe the Ortega head-butting.

Platt's "analysis" is usually on the lines of "That's a fantastic left-foot shot", which at least leaves him less open to what we doctors call Keegan Syndrome. It should be recorded, however, that Kevin did finally call me correctly. On Friday, as France and Italy embarked on their penalty shoot-out, Keegan said he believed France had the advantage in shooting first. Before I had a chance to phone my bookie and transfer all my money on to Italy, Keegan had remarkably been proven right.

Finally, Motty Watch. This week's gem was his carefully rehearsed ad-lib before the Germans and Croatians kicked off. "Germany first won the trophy 44 years ago today with a team reconstructed after the war, and here they're playing a nation who know a great deal about war." A specialist in international relations writes: "Very much so, John."

Weekend results

RUGBY UNION

INTERNATIONAL MATCHES SOUTH AFRICA 16 England 6

RUGBY LEAGUE

SUPER LEAGUE

Rugby Union

Rugby League

Super League

Rugby Union

Rugby League

Super League

Rugby Union

Rugby League

Super League

Rugby Union

Rugby League

Super League

Rugby Union

Rugby League

Super League

Rugby Union

Rugby League

Super League

Rugby Union

Rugby League

Super League

Rugby Union

Rugby League

Super League

Rugby Union

Rugby League

Super League

Rugby Union

Rugby League

Super League

Rugby Union

Rugby League

Super League

Rugby Union

Rugby League

Super League

Rugby Union

Rugby League

Super League

Rugby Union

Rugby League

Super League

Rugby Union

Rugby League

Super League

Rugby Union

Rugby League

Super League

Rugby Union

Rugby League

Super League

Rugby Union

Rugby League

Super League

Rugby Union

Rugby League

Super League

Rugby Union

Rugby League

Super League

Rugby Union

Rugby League

Super League

Rugby Union

Rugby League

Super League

Rugby Union

Rugby League

Super League

Rugby Union

Rugby League

Super League

Rugby Union

Rugby League

Super League

Rugby Union

Rugby League

Super League

Rugby Union

Rugby League

Super League

Rugby Union

Rugby League

Super League

Rugby Union

Rugby League

Super League

Rugby Union

Rugby League

Super League

Rugby Union

Rugby League

Super League

Rugby Union

Rugby League

Super League

Rugby Union

Rugby League

Super League

Rugby Union

Rugby League

Super League

Rugby Union

Rugby League

Super League

Rugby Union

Rugby League

Super League

Rugby Union

Rugby League

Super League

Rugby Union

Rugby League

Super League

Rugby Union

Rugby League

Super League

Rugby Union

Rugby League

Super League

Rugby Union

Rugby League

Super League

Rugby Union

Rugby League

Super League

Rugby Union

Rugby League

Super League

Rugby Union

Rugby League

Super League

Rugby Union

Rugby League

Super League

Rugby Union

Rugby League

Super League

Rugby Union

Rugby League

Super League

Rugby Union

Rugby League

Super League

Rugby Union

Rugby League

Super League

Rugby Union

Rugby League

Super League

Rugby Union

Rugby League

Super League

Rugby Union

Rugby League

Super League

Rugby Union

Rugby League

Super League

Rugby Union

Rugby League

Super League

Rugby Union

Rugby League

Super League

Rugby Union

Rugby League

Super League

Rugby Union

Rugby League

Super League

Rugby Union

Rugby League

Super League

Rugby Union

Rugby League

Super League

Rugby Union

Rugby League

Super League

Rugby Union

Rugby League

Super League

Rugby Union

Rugby League

Super League

Rugby Union

Rugby League

Super League

Rugby Union

Rugby League

Super League

Rugby Union

Rugby League

Super League

Rugby Union

Rugby League

Super League

Rugby Union

Rugby League

Super League

Rugby Union

Rugby League

Super League

Rugby Union

Rugby League

Super League

Rugby Union

Rugby League

Super League

Rugby Union

Rugby League

Super League

Rugby Union

Rugby League

Super League

Rugby Union

Rugby League

Super League

Rugby Union

Rugby League

Super League

Rugby Union

Rugby League

Super League

Rugby Union

Rugby League

Super League

Rugby Union

Rugby League

Super League

Rugby Union

Rugby League

Super League

Rugby Union

Rugby League

Super League

Rugby Union

Rugby League

Super League

Rugby Union

Rugby League

Super League

Rugby Union

Rugby League

Super League

Rugby Union

Rugby League

Super League

Rugby Union

Rugby League

Super League

Rugby Union

Rugby League

Super League

Rugby Union

Rugby League

Super League

Rugby Union

Rugby League

Super League

Rugby Union

Rugby League

Super League

Rugby Union

Rugby League

Super League

Rugby Union

Rugby League

Super League

Rugby Union

Rugby League

Super League

Rugby Union

Rugby League

Super League

Rugby Union

Rugby League

Super League

Rugby Union

Rugby League

Super League

Rugby Union

Rugby League

Super League

Rugby Union

Rugby League

Super League

Rugby Union

Rugby League

Super League

Rugby Union

Rugby League

Super League

Rugby Union

Rugby League

